

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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## OUR ALLIANCES.

THE tone of Lord John Russell about Savoy the other night, and that of the *Times* since, are important signs of the new character of the European crisis. We cannot too clearly, or too quickly, understand this. The Budget has great points of interest, and the Reform Bill ought to have, for us all; but the prosperity of our trade, and the soundness of our institutions, are both connected with our European position, and are in large measure dependent upon it.

This, however, is a truth which is little understood, and which is mixed up with some confusing associations. The public justly feels that "nonintervention" has a great deal to say for itself, and we cannot wonder at it. Interference uncalled for, propaganda not to be followed by action, are disgusting both to our sense and our pride. We have no right to be bullying feeble despots, when we do not meddle with strong ones; or urging a dissatisfied people to "rise," if we do not mean in any way to help them. All this is most true. But then comes in your cotton fanatic, your peace bully, and spoils the truth altogether. According to him, Britain is never to speak in the European Council at all. Great Powers are to extend themselves, and, unless they absolutely invade us, we are to look on in silence. But we are not even to prepare for the contingency of an invasion, the preparation being expensive! How, one wonders, can men be so blind? Is their real inspiration the hope that disaster may destroy the institutions which they find so difficult to shake, and that great changes would be worth buying at any price? or are they only blind believers in peace in an age which has seen two great wars, both originating in aggression, within a few years? We really cannot say. We only know that nothing more deadly could happen to England than the ascendancy of such persons.

Can there, seriously, be any doubt of the dangers of French Imperialism after the Savoy business? There is now, we suppose, no question of the destiny of that province, Switzerland's alarm and England's remonstrances notwithstanding. It is to be annexed to France, and for no reason than that the Emperor takes it as a price for his Italian campaign, plus the military glory. It is nothing to the purpose to argue that, on the whole, Liberty gains by the bargain; for, first, we cannot be certain

for years to come that Liberty does. Just at this moment, no doubt, Central Italy is gay. But the French troops are leaving Lombardy; the Pope and Naples are minatory; and though Austria is quiet she does not pledge herself to inaction for ever and a day. Years must pass before the new Italian edifice of Liberty proves that it can resist wind and weather. And, meanwhile, by what right does Italy sell Savoy to foreigners in exchange for its freedom? Who is to settle how many human souls go to the pound in such barter? The mountaineer of the Alps is as good a man as the peasant of the plains of the Po or the banks of the Arno. The security of Switzerland, with its generous history, is as well worth preserving as the independence of Tuscany. We are not to measure nations by their turn for music and art—a paltry and effeminate standard altogether. Besides, there is the general European system to consider; its harmony, stability, and equilibrium. That is much more important than the "universal suffrage" of a few Southern provinces, even were it certain (which it is not) that any such institution would be found durable. Let us dismiss all notion of acquiescing in the Savoy job as a good bargain for Liberty. It is a shabby one; and Liberty will one day pay the piper for it, we may be very sure.

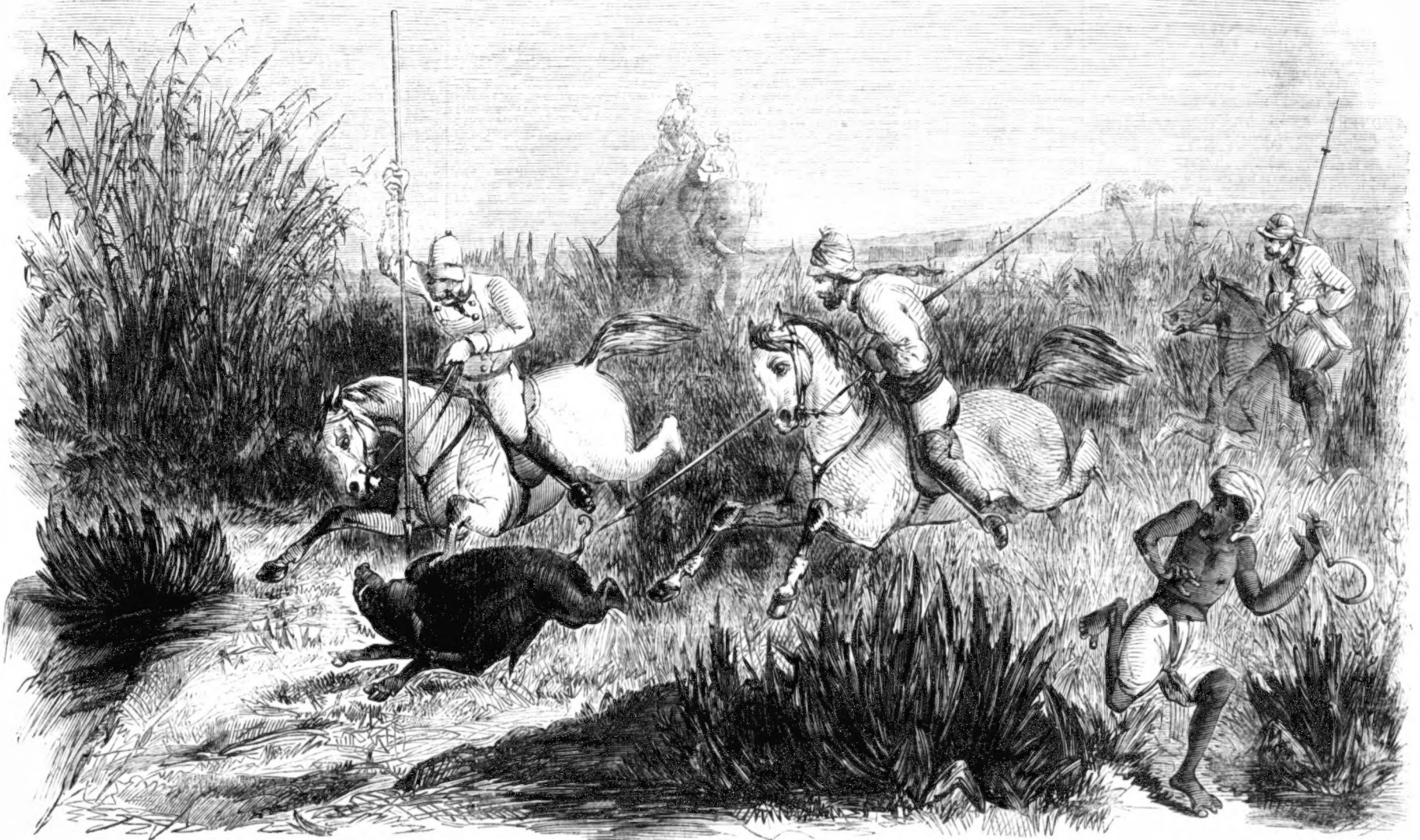
Lord John showed such a respectable amount of spirit on Monday—and internal good feeling is so important to Great Britain just now—that we take no pleasure in repeating that the Ministry has been ignobly duped. Such, nevertheless, is the case. They believed everything they heard from Paris; made a bad commercial treaty in absolute reliance on words only, and are literally confessing their mistake with uneasy shame. The Foreign Minister of England tells Parliament—about a Sovereign on whose friendliness he is at that moment inviting Parliament to rely (by a commercial scheme)—that we must never be to that Sovereign what we have been hitherto! The situation is unprecedented. The financial bargain is in progress while the declaration of mistrust is made. The two Governments stand trading together like hucksters who are afraid of each other—one huckster, unluckily, being much the sharper of the two.

Lord John, we apprehend, is right in the conclusion at which he has at last arrived by a process so humiliating. We had

better be careful how we form such thick-and-thin intimacies again. If we have given up going into the great European arena, do not let us hold anybody's clothes for him. If we cannot now play the part of Cromwell and Chatham, let us, at least, avoid the second French fiddle. Let our alliances be useful ones; not such as bring danger and dishonour.

We are told, pretty often—now that the French game is clear—that, as we are not going to fight for Savoy, we had better not talk about it. The eagle (such folk argue) is flying off with the prey; and hallooing (in the absence of a bullet) will not make it drop it. We have made donkeys of ourselves, and must not indulge in a dissatisfied bray. There is a good deal of common sense here. But, though the Savoy affair is, in truth, not so much a theft as a shabby swindle (for to us Savoy is a Royal province, in which, according to precedent, its King may "deal"), there is great necessity for our showing Europe that we think the precedent an ugly one, and mean to act accordingly. Of course, Napoleon has always contemplated that we should grow restive some day; hence Cherbourg—hence his navy—hence his coast fortifications—hence, we may add, his courtings of Russia and patronage of Spain. But, being restive, let us make the fact known. It may teach his subjects what risks the policy they seem to back him in really exposes them to; it may teach any possible victims of his next move where to look for a friend; it may induce himself to pause in his career; for, after all, we never said that he had a fanatical wish to destroy England, even when most conscious that it was possible he might attempt it. What we believe to be the true state of the case is that, in his great object of aggrandising France for the sake of his dynasty, he will keep clear of England as long as he can. Possibly, this country might enjoy the honour of being his humble friend (while he was accomplishing his "destiny") for many years. We only deny that such a course would be honourable; and prudence would further make us anticipate the punishment of our baseness in our "turn" coming at last.

The application of these remarks on the situation to our future alliances is obvious, and we are not likely to shirk making it; for, in fact, we anticipated the present feeling of the country by making it some time ago. We think that the duty of the British Government is to intimate its resolution to resist further



PIG-STICKING IN INDIA.—FROM A DRAWING BY THE LATE CAPTAIN G. F. ATKINSON.)



encroachment, in harmony with such Powers as further encroachment would most imperil. The alliance with Prussia can hardly be too close, and the real sentiments of Russia must be definitely ascertained. In such times, when so much depends on diplomacy, it is painful to think how badly our diplomacy seems to be done. Could Napoleon's real intentions in the Savoy affair have been so long dubious had thorough perspicacity been exercised by the British Minister at Paris? We do not see how. It is possible that other intrigues may be in progress at this moment, and equally escaping the observation of the agents of our Government. The country would do well to consider this, for on its means and its energy everything will at last depend.

#### PIG-STICKING IN INDIA.

THIS is a sport peculiar to India, and peculiar to the English who live there—a sport originated by them, and practised only by them. It is a very different style of thing to the boar-hunting of Europe, which involved the rallying forth with a huge retinue of attendants, great flourishing of trumpets and horns, and a vast collection of dogs, who were in verity the real sportsmen, as they did the work of destruction, although green-and-gold embroidered garments, three-cornered hats, and high-prancing Normandy steeds, played no inconspicuous feature in the proceedings.

In India every "griff," or fresh bit of imported Saxon, mounts his little pony, the first gallant steed that perchance he may ever have strode, or at any rate have called his own; and, having managed to acquire the art of sticking to his saddle, he invests in a hog-spear, and tries his luck at the "grunters" that may dare to cross his path. These are not unfrequently the unoffending porkers belonging to that community who live on the unclean animal, but which no caste but the very lowest will dare to touch by way of food. These pigs are the scavengers of the villages and cantonments, and perform the conservancy duties for the sanitary commissioners. A good gallop after one of these young, long-legged, comb-backed animals is a pleasant diversion; for they are exceedingly fleet in their movements, and, being accustomed to the ravines and other broken ground, usually make straight running for such places, when the skill and dexterity of the rider have to be brought into play. A capital school of instruction is this for the youngsters, who soon acquire that management of the bit which is indispensable in the chase of the more dangerous denizen of the jungles when the more orthodox sport is being enjoyed, as well as in the skill of retaining a firm seat when at speed over irregular ground. The "pigs" for real sport are those large and wild animals that haunt the outskirts of forests and jungles, committing certain depredations in the cultivation, especially to the sugarcane, upon which the monster luxuriates, and grows apace upon it. Some portions of Bengal, not many miles from Calcutta, are famous for the supply of good fighting "pigs;" and the "Calcutta Pig-sticking Club" has its regular meets, and records the results of its sport, which are very considerable.

Let us, then, imagine a meeting fixed for the following morning. Generally speaking, an encampment is formed for several days at the appointed place, each member sending his tent for private purposes, while in the club-tent is carried on the somewhat important part of the entertainment—the champagne luncheons, commonly called "tiffins," or the earlier substantial breakfast, with its cold iced bottles of Ailsopp and of Bass; and again at night, at the less sought for but more daintily-prepared dinner, with its cool claret and artfully-compounded drinks, its "pags," and such like.

The business or duties, however, of the members will not allow of lengthened visits more than occasionally; so that, as in fox-hunting, the game is the one thing desired, and a speedy return home. The meeting is generally named half an hour before sunrise, and thither, in "dog-carts, phaetons, gigs, tilburies," and on "nags," the intervening ten, fifteen, or twenty miles is accomplished before the golden orb of day has made his appearance.

Then order is formed; the beaters announce where the game was last seen, and forthwith into the dense jungle or cane-fields, through which a horseman cannot find his way, the beaters backing each other up, and with inhuman shouts, enough to terrify even an insane boar, drive him from his lair. On the outskirts of the thickets are the huntsmen, well mounted, armed with the penetrating spear, whose tip now glitters in the sun, and with a degree of sharpness astonishing to behold, will probably ere long plunge into the distended flanks of some now hungry pig that is crashing his ponderous but leisurely way through the juicy canes. Judiciously posted are the huntsmen. They know full well that the pig is almost as fleet for a while as their swiftest Arab, and no time is to be lost if he gallops off straight for some other impracticable lair; so they are well awake; the experienced "pig-sticker," as the horse which has had much practice in it is frequently called, is all alive and on his mettle. The object is to draw the pig to some practicable place for equestrian movements, where he may be tempted to show fight, which he will always avoid if practicable. At last his crash is heard as he bursts out of the field, and, viewing his enemies at once making for him, away he scampers at the utmost speed. And now it is that the question of real "sport" becomes decided, according to his mettle and the nature of the ground. He may turn on his pursuers, doubling them as a hare does a greyhound; and then it is that horses frequently become gored, and their riders come to grief; then it is that the skillful huntman shows his "talents," and, if well mounted and well able to manage his spear and bit, gets the advantage over the infuriated pig, closes craftily upon him on the desired side, and then delicately insinuates the well-poised lance into the heaving side of his carcass. Of course, the object of the sport is to be the first drawer of blood, and the rivalry and contention among the huntsmen are what constitute the fun and glory of the sport. There are certain rules which cannot be more than alluded to in this brief outline; but everything is done "selon les règles," and the result is that the sport affords much excitement, great amusement, and necessitates the qualifications in the sportsman of courage, skill, and good horsemanship, without which he had far better remain at home.

Arab horses are by far the best "pigstickers," as they are more active and smaller than imported ones either from the Cape, England, or Australia; and both these points are of considerable importance. The costume adopted is generally a light pith helmet or hunting-cap, covered with white, a flannel jacket or shooting-coat, and either gaiters, top-boots, jack-boots, or something of that nature, with cords or leather breeches—not forgetting a taste of brandy-and-water in a conveniently-slung flask. The sport may be continued for hours; but before the sun waxes very warm it is given up, in order that those who have to retrace their steps to their habitations may have time to do so; while those more blessed with leisure proceed to their tents, enjoy a cooling bath, and are soon absorbed in the mysteries of a good, substantial, well-earned breakfast.

THE PRINCE OF WALES A PRISONER.—The Prince of Wales, in company with Colonel Keppel, Mr. Herbert Fisher, Earl Brownlow, and other gentlemen, went out with the South Oxfordshire hounds on Friday week; but, meeting with indifferent sport, the Royal party, on their return to Oxford, determined on a ride across country. Not being acquainted with the locality, they made their way across the lands of a certain Farmer Hedges at Barton, and rode into the farmyard. Farmer Hedges immediately closed his gates on the party, and levied a fine of a sovereign for damages, enforcing the demand with an intimation that none of them should leave until he had pocketed the amount. "The party at first imagined," says the paper from which we take this paragraph, "that when Hedges was acquainted with the names of his visitors he would at once have claimed the Royal clemency; but in this they were quite mistaken, for upon being informed that he was detaining the future King of England he remarked, 'Prince or no Prince, I'll have my money!' The astonishment of the Prince's retinue may well be imagined (we don't know why); but, being mounted and encompassed by stone walls, they were compelled to yield to the inexorable farmer, who, added to an 'amiable' disposition, is possessed of a powerful frame, and on the occasion in question was armed with a dungfork, the emblem of his calling. The Royal party, although somewhat annoyed at their detention and the obstinacy of the farmer, made the best of the joke, the Prince above the rest being much amused at the turn matters had taken."

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

The *Constitutionnel*, in an article signed by its chief editor, M. Grandguillot, treating of the possibility of the departure of the French army from Rome, says:—"It has always been admitted that we could not remain indefinitely at Rome. The Roman Government having appeared to desire our departure, France waits only until the safety of the Pope be assured, but will not leave Rome until replaced by the army of an Italian Power. Negotiations with Naples have been spoken of; and, if the course of events should lead to such an end, France certainly will not raise any obstacles."

The French squadron re-embarking at Toulon has received orders to be ready to sail on the 24th.

The *Patrie* denies that Prussia is about to place a corps of observation on the Rhine.

France takes on herself as her quota of the public debt of Piedmont 175 million francs by the incorporation of Savoy.

### SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

The Spanish forces in Morocco were victorious in an engagement fought on the 26th, and immediately afterwards preliminaries of peace were concluded between the belligerent parties. A telegram from Madrid says the conditions are "probably" as follows:—An indemnity of 400,000,000 reals. The retention of Tetuan by the Spanish until payment of the indemnity. The territorial aggrandisement of Melilla. Commercial advantages. The protection of missionaries. A Spanish Minister to reside at Fez.

The *Official Gazette* states that the Spanish loss in the battle of the 36th was 1267 men killed and wounded.

### ITALY.

#### SARDINIA.

The King of Sardinia has issued a proclamation to the people of Central Italy. He says—

Your wishes are satisfied. You are united under one monarchy—a reward well merited by your unity and perseverance. It is, however, necessary to continue the virtues of which you have given such an admirable example to the world. Above all things, persevere in the firm resolution to make such sacrifices as are indispensable for accomplishing and establishing great enterprises. We are now bound by an indissoluble pact of honour to our common country and to universal civilisation. I have exposed my life for the independence of Italy, and I have given my people an example of loyalty. I now claim for my new peoples the same affection as from my former subjects. I desire to strengthen the Italians in the unanimity of their resolution to resist aggression, and to prepare continually for better things.

The official *Gazette* publishes the following decrees relative to the administration of the province of Tuscany:—

Prince Carignan is appointed Lieutenant of the King and Commander of the Naval and Military Forces. His Royal Highness will exercise, in the name of the King, the right of pardon, &c. The Administrative centre will remain provisionally at Florence. Baron Ricasoli is appointed General Governor. The Ministry ceases. The army of Tuscany will be incorporated with the Sardinian army.

The result of the elections of representatives to the Parliament is very favourable to the Liberal cause. At Florence the Chevalier Buoncompagni, Baron Ricasoli, Count Cavour, and Signor Peruzzi have been elected. At Bologna, Count Cavour, the Marquis Pepoli, Signori Berti, Piccol, and Oudinot. At Turin, Count Cavour, Baron Ricasoli, and Signor Farini. At Milan, Count Cavour and Signori Farini and Cattaneo. At Genoa, Count Cavour.

M. Nigra has been appointed Minister Resident of Sardinia at Paris. Besides a protest, to be addressed to the Powers of Europe, showing why the annexation of Tuscany to Piedmont is a flagrant violation of the treaties guaranteed by Europe, the Grand Duke Ferdinand IV. is preparing a manifesto to be addressed to the people of Tuscany. The Duchess Regent of Parma, who resides at Zurich, has addressed herself to the Queen of Spain, in her quality of chief of the Spanish Bourbons, requesting her Majesty to support, before the Great Powers, her protest against the annexation of the Duchies of Parma and Piacenza to Piedmont.

### NAPLES.

The King spent three days at Gaeta last week in inspecting the newly-enlisted troops. The army of the Abruzzi is being concentrated. It is asserted that a levy of all able-bodied men whose age does not exceed forty years has been decided on.

A Neapolitan correspondent of the *Times* writes:—

I have long since told your readers that an understanding existed between the King of Naples, the Pope, and the Emperor of Austria, for a combined movement to crush Piedmont. Long since Francis II. gave General Filangieri orders to provide the army with rifled cannon (100 have been cast at Petrasa), and all the modern necessities of war, after the fashion of the French. An army, as you are aware, was sent to the Roman frontier, and is still in that direction. The French Government, however, very soon after ordered its agent in Naples to inform the Cabinet of the Two Sicilies what views Napoleon III. would take (and how he would act) if the occupation of the States of the Church by a Neapolitan army were decided upon. Austria and Naples therefore agreed to remain tranquil, and wait the march of events. It now appears that the Neapolitan Minister at Paris has written to M. Carafa, saying that the Emperor Napoleon does not any longer object to a Neapolitan force occupying that portion of the territory of St. Peter where Papal authority still is in force. At the same time the Cabinet of Vienna has called upon the King to be ready to send 50,000 troops into the Roman States, under the promise that, if they are attacked by the forces of Piedmont, then Austria will come to the rescue. We expect, therefore, to find every day a decree in the official journal for recruiting another 30,000 or 80,000 men. The army and navy are rapidly reaching a complete war footing; in fact, the King could to-morrow march 20,000 or 30,000 men to the aid of his Holiness the Pope.

The *Patrie* denies that the King of Naples contemplates such a step. Great agitation still prevails in the Island of Sicily.

### ROME.

A Consistory was held on the 23rd inst. The allocution which was delivered by the Pope on the occasion remains an absolute secret. It is only known that the excommunication has not yet been pronounced. On the same day (23rd) another pacific manifestation took place while the Pope was proceeding to St. Peter's Cathedral. The number of carriages was immense.

A public functionary, guilty of embezzlement, has been sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment.

A correspondent of the *Times* reports that the Pope insists on the necessity of the evacuation of the Pontifical States by the French. "The arrangement appears to be that the whole of the Pope's troops will garrison Rome, while the Neapolitans will occupy the Marches and Umbria. In order to prevent a conflict with the Piedmontese troops negotiations are now going on at Turin. If the news by telegram from Madrid—namely, that the preliminaries of peace are signed between Spain and Morocco—turn out true, we may expect the bulk of the Spanish army soon back again. Queen Isabel is most anxious to come to the assistance of the Holy Father, and I should not be surprised if the influence of the Archbishop of Toledo prevailed, and that a Spanish force was eventually sent to the Papal States."

### PRUSSIA.

Prussia is wholly occupied with the annexation question, and the probabilities of Napoleonic aggrandisement. It is believed in Berlin that a close alliance with England is on the carpet, "late negotiations on the subject of the annexation having produced a favourable result." The answer of Prussia to M. Thouvenel's note contains a distinct reservation of the rights, and energetically supports the demands, of Switzerland.

### AUSTRIA.

A new Austrian loan of 200,000,000 florins is announced. The current interest is fixed at five per cent. The bonds are of 500 florins each, and are to be repaid within fifty-seven years by lottery drawings, to take place every six months. The highest prize in the lottery will be 300,000 florins, the lowest 600 florins. A part of the proceeds of

the loan will be given to the National Bank in payment of the various sums which it advanced to the State during the year 1859, and the remainder will be used to cover the extraordinary outlay caused by the late war.

The Austrian Government is resolved to preserve a purely passive attitude with respect to the annexation of Savoy and Nice: she neither protests nor opposes.

### THE GERMAN DIET.

The Legislative Body of the free town of Frankfort-on-the-Maine has unanimously resolved to give its representative the following instructions—viz.:—"He may propose at the Federal Diet that a Central Power in Germany, increased by a national representation, should be established." The motive given for this resolution is the threatening attitude assumed by France.

A committee sitting of the Federal Diet was held on the 24th, when the question of re-establishing the Constitution of Electoral Hesse was taken into consideration. The proposal of the majority of the Commission on this question was agreed to by twelve votes, the minor States voting collectively, as is usual in committee sittings of the Diet. Electoral Hesse abstained from voting. Luxemburg declared she would neither vote for the proposal of the majority of the Commission nor join in the opinion of the minority. The free towns voted that the question be referred back to the Commission for further deliberation. Prussia and another vote declared in favour of the opinion expressed by the minority of the Commission. Prussia, besides, expressly declined to be bound by this resolution of the Federal Diet. On the proposal of Austria, acting as president, the Federal Diet then declared that all federal Governments are obliged to recognise the resolution of the Diet.

### RUSSIA.

The Odessa correspondent of the *Levant Herald*, writing on the 3rd of March, says:—

I am able to assure you that in Russia, as in other parts of Europe, extensive military preparations are being made, and, notwithstanding the Imperial promise not to levy men for the army, we here see continual crowds of conscripts arriving to complete the vacancies in the 5th corps-d'armée, who from the environs of Odessa proceed to take up their quarters on the Dneister. It is said by some that the concentration of these forces is to intimidate the peasants, whose discontent is extreme, and who even threaten to massacre their lords; whilst by others it is reported that these military measures are made in this quarter in the event of a revolution in Hungary, in which case the Russians would occupy the Molda-Wallachian Principalities, to protect them from any revolutionary disorder.

According to the Bucharest correspondent of the *Levant Herald*—

From 60,000 to 80,000 men of the Russian army are concentrated on the banks of the Dneister, where they are actively erecting fortifications and guard-stations. The Russian Steam Navigation Company have received notice not to bind themselves by contract for the conveyance of merchandise for any length of time, but to make agreements for limited periods, so as to be ready in case the Government required their services.

### TURKEY AND THE EAST.

It is reported that "the Sublime Porte, anxious for the welfare of the Servians, has appointed Michael Obrenovitch successor to Prince Milosch."

The Wallachian Parliament was opened by Prince Alexander Couza on the 12th, who told the Deputies that the work of the union of the two provinces might now be looked upon as completed in a diplomatical sense, and that, therefore, they might wholly give themselves up to the consideration of the internal interests of the country.

### AMERICA.

The Senate has rejected the treaty with Nicaragua. A bill for the suppression of polygamy in Utah has been introduced in the House of Representatives.

Stephens and Hazlitt, the last of the Harper's Ferry insurgents, have been executed. Thus, in no one case has mercy been shown.

A fire occurred on the 13th at Mobile, by which the theatre and the Union Cotton Press, containing 2000 bales of cotton, were destroyed. The damage was estimated at 275,000 dollars.

A revolution in New Grenada is reported.

### CHINA.

The Chinese rebellion is reported to be gaining strength in the north.

A collision, ending fatally, has taken place at Swatow between the Anglo-Chinese customs service and a British vessel.

### THE ANNEXATION OF SAVOY.

THE treaty by which the King of Sardinia consents—subject to the approval of the Chambers—to the annexation (*rénexion*) of Savoy and the district of Nice to France has been signed. The following are the principal articles:—

Art. 1. The King of Sardinia consents to the annexation of Savoy and the district of Nice to France, and renounces for himself and his descendants and successors, in favour of the Emperor of the French, his rights over those territories. This annexation will be effected without any constraint of the will of the population, and the two Governments will act in concert to ascertain, in the best possible manner, the manifestation of that will.

Art. 2. The King of Sardinia transfers the neutralised parts of Savoy, subject to conditions under which he himself possesses them, and the Emperor of the French promises to come to an understanding on this matter both with the Powers represented at the Congress of Vienna and with the Helvetic Confederation.

Art. 3, 4, and 5. Mixed Commissions shall determine the frontiers of the two States, and shall be charged with the settlement of the various incidental questions to which the annexation may give rise.

Art. 6. The Sardinian subjects, natives of Savoy or of the district of Nice, shall enjoy for the space of a year the privilege of claiming the conservation of the Sardinian nationality.

The signature of the treaty has been followed by the entry of the French troops into the capital of Savoy, Chambéry. The despatch received at Paris states that the troops were received with acclamations by the people, and that the National Guards made their appearance with the French cockade on their hats.

These measures have been taken in spite of the most vigorous protests from Switzerland, backed by the opinion of nearly the whole of Europe, and despite the wishes of the populations chiefly concerned. It is true that his Majesty the French Emperor lately received a "deputation" of Savoyards, who said that, "from the banks of the Lake of Geneva to the valley of Mont Cenis, the persons who have been honoured by the suffrages of their fellow-citizens have hastened to express to your Majesty the joy which Savoy will experience when united to France, and when she can have but one cry with that great and noble nation—that of 'Vive l'Empereur! Vive la France!'" Who were the persons composing this deputation, however, and who deputed them, have not transpired, though the question has been repeatedly urged. We may safely assume that they were people of no authority whatever, and it is certain that they misrepresented the feelings of the country they have disgraced. Their character, declared in this misrepresentation, was illustrated by an address to the Empress and the Prince Imperial, in which they said:—

Savoy is an affectionate country, Madam; she loves her Princes. (1) How should she not passionately love your Majesty, who is crowned with so many graces and virtues? Savoy hopes that you will love her also, and that you will give her a precious proof of it by soon visiting her in person. And you, Monseigneur, you who are destined to continue so much grandeur, your children will be as devoted to you as we are to the Emperor, your glorious father. As soon as we reach our native mountains, they will re-echo with the cry, which already fills our hearts, "Vive l'Impératrice! Vive le Prince Imperial!"

Meanwhile the people of Savoy and Nice were protesting by thousands against the annexation to France. A declaration, signed by upwards of 11,000 of the inhabitants of Northern Savoy, and addressed to "the high Powers of Europe," asserted that the people were desirous to remain under the rule of the King of Sardinia; but that, if a transfer were absolutely necessary, they wished to be annexed to Switzerland, and not to France. Similar addresses were addressed to



the King of Sardinia, the French Emperor, and the Swiss Federal Council.

On the 19th a circular note of the Swiss Government protesting against the annexation of Savoy to France was sent to all the great Powers, signatories of the treaties of 1815. This circular quotes the treaties forbidding any such cession, and it asserts that Chablais and Faucigny are much more united to Switzerland, both by material interests and by the wishes of the population, than to France:—

An idea has likewise been started that the neutralised provinces might remain in the *status quo* in case that even the entire of Savoy should be ceded to France.

The Federal Council has certainly no occasion to discuss this hypothesis, and to demonstrate its impossibility. A state of things which might have its reasons with regard to a Power of the second order would be completely irrational with respect to one of the great military Powers of Europe, and would be equally contrary to the dignity of the two States. Suppose that Savoy is united to France, either that Power would refuse to acknowledge the *status quo* or else the actual state of things would have only a nominal importance without any real value for Switzerland. The stipulation of the eventual retreat of the French troops, which would, at the moment, occupy the neutralised provinces by the Canton of the Valais and by the Simplon, might even be termed nonsense.

After having explained these various points of view, Switzerland claims the intervention of the high Powers in so important an affair, and so serious for her future. She takes this step with all the confidence which she owes to the guarantees of order between nations and to the treaties on which European international law reposes. She may expect with confidence the maintenance of the rights which treaties secure to her; she may expect that, if really a change in the existing position of affairs is to take place, and if Savoy is to be ceded, the possibility will be given her by the adjunction of the neutralised provinces to defend, with a chance of success, her neutrality and her independence.

The Helvetic Society, the members of which are very numerous, has resolved to send a deputation to the President of the Federal Council to express their protest against the annexation of Savoy to France, and to demand prompt, energetic, and military demonstrations in order to support the protest.

M. de Thouvenel has answered the protest of Switzerland. After examining the proceedings of the Congress of Vienna on the point, he says:—

Does not the situation of Switzerland, as it appears from the detail of the negotiations, prove that the Federal Council interposes without legitimate reasons in the arrangements which the Emperor's Government and that of King Victor Emmanuel propose to conclude.

I admit, however, that there is reason to examine how the stipulations of 1815 on this special point affect the generality of the arrangements settled by common accord at that epoch between the Powers which signed the treaties of Vienna in order to assure the neutrality of the Helvetic Confederation. But that is a question which the Emperor's Government must treat with those Powers, and I do not hesitate to say that we are disposed to adopt the modifications which may be suggested, either by the general interest or more particularly by the interest of Switzerland.

And it is asserted that France has proposed to submit the stipulations in the treaties of 1815, relative to the neutralised provinces, to a Congress of the Powers, to which, according to these treaties, Switzerland will be admitted.

The treaty concerning the cession of Savoy and Nice to France was published in the *Moniteur* after the protest of the Federal Council; and, having in view the terms of that treaty, the Council has directed the Minister Plenipotentiaries of Switzerland, at Paris and Turin, to repeat the protest.

The position of the great Powers of Europe with regard to this question appears to be this at present. Russia replies to all communications on the subject that, so long as the "right of the people" to select their own rulers is not put forward by France, and that the present change does not affect the balance of Europe, what Sardinia may choose to do with Savoy is no business of hers. Austria will let affairs take their course, without any expression of protest or approval. Prussia energetically supports the demands of Switzerland; and England is said to have arrived at an understanding with Prussia. Russia, we are told, is in favour of a Congress; and the *Herald* says such a Congress is likely to be held in London shortly.

From the result of the elections in Savoy for the Sardinian Parliament it appears that those who are opposed to the annexation to France abstained from voting, in accordance with the recommendation of the *Statut de la Savoie*, which says:—

The *Moniteur* brings forward the annexation in so positive a manner that our political elections have no longer an object. Fully resolved not to perform the part of dupes without dignity, we refuse to associate ourselves with an equivocal vote which means nothing. We, therefore, invite all our fellow-citizens who will place their confidence in us to abstain from attending the political elections. The Piedmontese Government cannot, without violating its promises and our legitimate rights, dispense with calling upon us to pronounce ourselves freely upon our destinies. We expect, we desire that the suffrage shall be taken honestly on the subject.

General Dufour, who was sent to Paris by Switzerland to back her protest, is said to have returned profoundly dissatisfied.

**SILVER IN CALIFORNIA.**—The recent discoveries of silver in California appear to be highly important. The *New York Herald* reports it as probable that "the Washoe mines can yield 500 tons of ore a month, worth from 2000 dols. to 4000 dols. a ton. Scientific men state that the great silver veins, which have constituted the wealth of Mexico for more than a couple of centuries, pursue a north-westerly course from the mining regions of Mexico, through Arizona and Sonora, and finally crop out in California, and that the wonder is that they were not discovered and worked before the gold-mines. Letters from San Francisco describe the excitement there as intense and increasing, as might well proceed from a prospect of a new staple export, yielding 20,000,000 dols. to 25,000,000 dols. a year."

**HAYTI UNDER PRESIDENT GEFARD.**—A letter from Hayti of the 28th ult. says:—"Under the vigorous administration of President GEFARD the Haytian Republic is progressing rapidly in material ameliorations. Public works are being carried on with remarkable energy in all parts of the territory, and as many as twenty-four cotton-mills have been lately built. Moreover, an English company is organising a direct service of steamers between Port-au-Prince and Liverpool."

**THE FIBRE TRADE WITH INDIA.**—A deputation had an interview with Sir C. Wood, on Tuesday, for the purpose of asking him, as the head of the Indian department, to provide additional facilities for procuring the Indian fibres which are used in the staple manufactures of this country. The deputation pointed out the difficulty and expense of transit; and Sir C. Wood, in general terms, promised to do what he could to promote their object.

**DEATH OF ANOTHER WATERLOO HERO.**—Another Waterloo officer has been removed by death. Colonel Sir Thomas Noel Harris, K.H., died at his seat in Kent on Friday week. The deceased officer was born in 1785, and was son of the late Rev. Hamlyn Harris, Rector of Whitehall, Rutlandshire. The Colonel served in the campaigns of 1811, 1812, and 1813, in the Peninsula, during which he was in constant active service. In the autumn of the latter year he served with the allied armies in Germany and France up to the surrender of Paris in 1814, and was present at the battles of Grossbergen and Dennewitz, and the battles at Leipzig of the 16th, 18th, and 19th of October, 1813. He passed the Rhine with the army under Blücher in January of the succeeding year, and was present in all the battles and engagements up to the capitulation of Paris. He also served in the campaign of 1815, and was present at Quatre Bras and Waterloo, at which last battle he lost a limb, and was otherwise severely wounded, and had two horses shot under him. Sir Thomas was made a Knight of the Royal Hanoverian Order in 1830, and was knighted in 1841. He had received the silver war medal and four clasps for his services in the Peninsula, and had received also the order of Military Merit of Prussia, and the orders of St. Anne and St. Vladimir of Russia, for services before the enemy. He for some years held the appointment of chief magistrate at Gibraltar, and was one of the Grooms of her Majesty's Privy Chamber. He attained the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army in February, 1823, and retired on half-pay in 1830.

**THE WILTS PERAGE.**—Mr. Simon T. Scrope, of Danby, Yorkshire, has preferred a claim to the ancient earldom of Shrewsbury, which, if allowed, will place that gentleman above the Earl of Shrewsbury, as premier Earl in the peerage of England. Mr. Scrope claims that title as heir male and representative of the unfortunate Earl to whom Shakespeare alludes in his "Henry IV." and who was executed by the Duke of Lancaster (afterwards King Henry IV.), at Bristol, in 1399. Her Majesty has referred the petition to the Attorney-General, and it has been favourably reported on by that legal functionary, and the claim has therefore been laid formally before the House of Lords, who have referred it in the usual course to the Committee of Privileges.

## THE DISTURBANCES AT ROME.

A LETTER from Rome of the 20th gives some details of the disturbances which took place in that city on the preceding day:—

Yesterday, being St. Joseph's-day, it was generally understood that a grand promenade-demonstration would be made outside the Porta Pia, in honour of Joseph Garibaldi and in commemoration of the annexation of Central to Upper Italy. The Government consequently gave orders for that long road to be strongly occupied by detachments of horse and foot gendarmes, and General de Goyon contributed some companies of French infantry for the preservation of order in the same locality. These dispositions, however, had the effect of checking the demonstration, and some thousands of promenaders resorted to the Corso instead, where great numbers of them appeared with the innocent distinction of bunches of violets in their button-holes. The patrols of gendarmes, who had orders to parade the Corso, took umbrage at this symbol, and insisted upon the promenaders walking singly instead of taking each other's arms. So strange a demand, of course, unaccustomed to admit of any reply to their high behests, proceeded to make some arrests upon the Piazza Colonna, which were resisted by the people as unjust and arbitrary. The gendarmes drew their swords, and a conflict would have taken place then and there had not a French officer interfered, and reasoning with the gendarmes, induced them to give up the prisoners. The people took this as a triumph, and the gendarmes skulked off amidst universal hissing. They lost no time in making their complaint at head-quarters, and a quarter of an hour later a patrol of horse gendarmes entered the Piazza Colonna from the Piazza di Pietra, whilst a strong detachment of foot gendarmes issued forth from the police office in the Monte Citorio Palace on the other side. These two forces then, with a drawn sword, made a combined attack upon the unarmed people on the Piazza Colonna, and in the Corso, striking right and left, turning back carriages, knocking down foot passengers—men, women, and children—ordering the cafés to be closed and house-doors to be shut, and, in fact, running a complete muck. It may be imagined what a panic was produced by this unexpected ruffianism. The people seemed terror-stricken, and those who were not quick enough in escaping from the Corso by the side streets were prostrated by the remorseless sabres of the gendarmes. The number of these victims are differently estimated—some accounts giving eighteen, and some sixty. A considerable proportion of the sufferers are foreigners, attracted by the beauty of the day and the hour of the promenade to the Corso. One or two Americans and some Germans have felt the weight of the gendarmes' blows; and several Frenchmen, some of whom were officers in plain clothes, are amongst the wounded. Our representative, Mr. Odo Russell, was proceeding down the Corso at the time of the fray, to dine with a friend who resides in that street, but his carriage was turned into a side lane by the gendarmes; and, as no arguments could induce his terrified coachman to return into the tabooed Corso, Mr. Russell was obliged to repair thither on foot. Bad blood has of course been bred by this lamentable occurrence, and we may look for a renewal of sinister events ere long.

Austrian accounts inform us that an Anglican minister was among those who were wounded. The suspected chiefs of the manifestation (twenty in number) have been arrested.

General Goyon has published an order of the day censuring those who provoked the public force by their insults, and commending the French officer who gave the order to disperse the populace. He laments, however, the want of judgment shown by the Roman gendarmes, as well as their blind impetuosity.

On the morning of the 19th another unmistakable display of the feeling which pervades the students of the Roman University took place at the chapel attached to the Sapienza. After mass and the customary prayers a stentorian voice announced that a "Te Deum" was about to be intoned in thanksgiving for the annexation of Central Italy to the constitutional kingdom of Victor Emmanuel; and, despite the remonstrances of the priests and the University dignitaries present, the students sang the "Te Deum" "with one accord;" and the same powerful voice concluded with an "Oremus" for the prosperity of the newly-inaugurated era of Italian independence.

**GERMAN OPINIONS.**—The *Allgemeine Zeitung* has an article on "Self-government" and "Universal Suffrage," in which it refers to the European politics of the present day, and especially defends English institutions against the attacks of the French press. It says:—"Unless we are completely deceived, public opinion in England begins to see clearer into the matter of the 2nd of December, and to adopt the convictions of Germany. The symptoms are more and more in accord; the conduct of all parties is beginning to harmonise; it is assuming a definite form; it appears a power on the stage of the world. Public opinion in Germany is a thought which, to prevail in the world, has need of embodiment; public opinion, when in England, is, at the same time, action. . . . The debates in Parliament and in the press are precursory signs; the time will come when the people will stir themselves, will meet, will make speeches, will press the Ministers; and the time is gone by for the entry of Austria into the Lomelline (Novara) to be called a crime. The movement has begun; the masses are beginning to agitate; we shall end by seeing them share our convictions. . . . The *Constitutionnel* seems to have a presentiment of this, and to know that the coalition which it would conjure by its pleasantries is nearer than it wishes, and that France has a vague feeling that it is coming. And, thank God, in spite of thousands of things, if England comes to seek us now she will find us ready and worthy of giving her our hand. England and Germany have to-day no need of a Pitt to make an alliance, but may, if need be, content themselves with a Russell."

**INCOME-TAX FRAUDS.**—On the transfer of the business of the Ecclesiastical Courts to the new Court of Probate a claim for compensation was successfully preferred by those who were especially affected by the change. A return was to be furnished by all practitioners of their professional receipts during a certain period, which was to form the basis of the allowance for compensation. Great astonishment was excited by the results disclosed as to the lucrative nature of the profession which they were called upon to relinquish. In an evil moment for the injured petitioners it was determined to institute a comparison between the claims which were now made for compensation and the returns at which they had assessed themselves during the corresponding period to the income tax. On pursuing the investigation upon this footing, Sir Stafford Northcote informs us that "very painful disclosures were made." Books and accounts completely substantiated the claims preferred, and thus served to render the contrast yet more glaring between the contents of the ledgers and the amount of the returns under schedule D. One gentleman had paid income tax for some years on an average income of £3000. This proved, upon further inquiry, to have been exactly half his ordinary receipts, and one-third only of the incomes in an unusually favourable year. In fact, so gross was the imposture which had been practised upon the public creditor, that arrears to the amount of upwards of £600 were voluntarily tendered to the Commissioners, in order to place the claimant in a position to come into court at all. In another case a "very respectable firm," who had in the course of five years made a trifling sum of £31,000 in the way of business, had credited the Commissioners only with profits which fell somewhat below the more modest figure of £9000. The climax was reached by an individual who, while professedly existing upon an income of a couple of hundred a year, coolly put in his claim for compensation at the rate of as many thousands. Upon remonstrance he had raised his assessment to £1161, and, upon being questioned as to his motive for selecting those particular figures, replied that "he thought an odd figure would look better than a round sum."

**THE PRINCE CONSORT AT THE CLOTHWORKERS' BANQUET.**—The Prince Consort was present on Tuesday evening at a dinner given by the Clothworkers' Company, inaugurative of their new hall in Mincing-lane. The new hall, which has only just been erected, is one of the finest of which the City can boast. Boldly-carved enrichments adorn the facade, which is of the Italian style of architecture of the Renaissance period. The arms of the company surmount a lofty portal, with bronze gates in the centre. From the entrance-hall—from which it is partially separated by coupled columns—springs the grand staircase. On the first landing are to be seen the Royal arms in alto relievo and in all the propriety of heraldic emblazonment. A lofty pendentive dome surmounts the staircase itself, which leads to the piano mobile, where, as in Italian palaces, are the State apartments. Here are to be found the reception-rooms of the Livery, and a drawing-room for the Court of Assistants and their guests. Here also stands the banquetting-hall, the chief feature of the building. It is a room of noble proportions and perfect harmony of design. In extreme length it is 80 feet; 40 feet wide; and 40 feet in height. Corinthian engaged columns of Aberdeen granite, highly polished and resting on granite pedestals, with a stylobate of richly-veined Devonshire marble, divide it into five bays at the sides and three at the ends. Above the entablature surmounting these columns is an attic, from which springs a coved ceiling. Female figures in alto relievo, emblematical of twelve of the principal commercial cities of the empire, adorn the spaces between the windows, which are of beautifully-stained glass. The company on Tuesday night included the Duke of Somerset, the Marquis of Salisbury, Earl Stanhope, the Earl of Romney, Lord Stanley, Lord Chelmsford, Sir C. Wood, General Peel, Mr. Disraeli, Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. Kinnaird, Mr. Wylde, M.P., Alderman Cubitt, Sir J. Romilly, Sir F. Pollock, and Mr. Justice Willes. The hall, which was tastefully decorated with flowers and flags, presented an appearance at once bright and fresh.

## IRELAND.

**ELECTIONEERING IN IRLAND.**—The *Limerick Reporter* coolly informs its readers that—"The Right Rev. Dr. Flannery, Lord Bishop of Killaloe, has called a meeting of the clergy of Clare, to be held at Ennis on Friday, the 30th inst., to confer with him on the course which they should pursue at the approaching election for that county. The Lord Bishop will preside; and we understand that the whole body of the clergy will attend the meeting, the result of which will, in a great measure, decide the fate of the election."

**CRIME AND REVIVALISM.**—The *Northern Whig* declares the statement that the recent "revivals" have diminished crime to be completely false; and, in proof, quotes the number of "drunk and disorderly cases" brought before the Belfast police magistrates in 1858 and 1859, the latter being the revival year. In 1858—a year in which there was a good deal of popular riot and disturbance—the number of drunkards conveyed to the Belfast Police Office was less by 373 cases than in 1859, when "revivalism" was in full swing and the streets and places of worship were swarming with hosts of "convicted sinners." Moreover, the increase of drunkenness appears to have been greatest in the "revival" months of 1859—June, July, August, September, and October. In the latter month of 1858 the drunk and disorderly cases were 251; in October of last year they were 321.

## SCOTLAND.

**SINGULAR APPLICATION UNDER THE SCOTCH MARRIAGE LAWS.**—A suit was recently tried in the Edinburgh Court of Session, in which the pursuer, Mrs. Catherine Mitchell, or Leslie, sought to establish that she was the wife of the late Rev. Cathcart Leslie, formerly Minister of Borthwick, near Edinburgh. The pursuer and her late husband were engaged in 1822, and, in 1827, he having become assistant to a minister, they formally accepted each other as husband and wife, agreeing to keep the marriage secret till he was placed in a church. There was no evidence of the contract except the correspondence in which the deceased subscribed himself as the pursuer's husband, and the lady used the name of Catherine Leslie. This was continued for thirty years, the deceased occasionally making remittances to the pursuer, but excusing himself from taking her to his house, his income being inadequate. In May, 1856, his liabilities amounting to between £7000 and £8000, some of which were said not to have been incurred in a very creditable manner, led him to resolve to flee the country, but while in Lancaster, whither he had gone on his way to America, he committed suicide. The Lord Ordinary decided that no marriage had been proved; but, the pursuer having reclaimed, the Court decided by a majority that the parties had been married according to the law of Scotland. Lord Deas explained that the leading principle of the law of Scotland was, that consent made marriage. No form or ceremony, civil or religious, no notice before nor publication after, no cohabitation, no writing, no witnesses even, were essential. Consent could be interchanged when no third party was present, and if it could be proved even at a distance of years that such consent had been seriously and deliberately given the parties would be held to be married from that time forward. Living together, and being by habit and repute husband and wife, would also constitute marriage, without inquiry whether the parties meant it or not.

**EFFECT OF TOO MANY MATRIMONIAL ENGAGEMENTS.**—A young man, named Archibald Campbell, committed suicide lately at Ardroune, near Bunnassan, Island of Mull. He was about to be married to a young woman from the Island of Tiree; and everything was going on smoothly, when a stop was put to the proclamation of the banns in the church of Bunnassan by two fair damsels of the neighbourhood to whom the deceased gave matrimonial promises on some former occasions. Next day Archibald Campbell hanged himself.

## THE PROVINCES.

**A CURIOUS CASE.**—The secretary of the Harmonic Sick and Burial Society of Salford applied to Mr. Trafford, a magistrate, last week, for advice under these circumstances. On the 5th of March the body of a young woman was taken out of the canal at Miles Platting, and at the inquest it was sworn to by two brothers, named Rogers, as the body of their sister, Rosannah Rogers, who was insured in the Harmony Society. There were three brothers (William, Joseph, and James), and several sisters of Rosannah Rogers, and the sisters and one brother, at the time of the inquest, alleged that it was not the body of their sister. However, upon the representation made, the deceased was buried at the expense of the society, and £5 was paid to the brothers. On Wednesday week Rosannah Rogers was discovered by the secretary of the society working in a mill at Pendleton. Mr. Trafford advised the secretary to consult with a solicitor.

**THE MURDER AT WALKERBINGHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.**—The examination of John Fenton, charged with the wilful murder of Charles Spencer, was resumed at East Retford on Friday week. Police-sergeant Cooper deposed to finding a hat upon the prisoner's premises, upon which were spots of blood very clearly defined. This hat, it is said, the prisoner had on on the night of the murder. The coat the prisoner wore on the day when the murder was committed cannot be found. Cooper, and also police-constable Kew, spoke to finding footprints going in the direction of the scene of the murder which corresponded with the prisoner's boots. These two witnesses, however, upon cross-examination, contradicted each other with regard to the impressions of nails said to have been observed in the prints. The inquiry was adjourned until such time as the analytical chemist to whom the trousers and leggings have been sent (with the view of ascertaining whether the blood found upon them is human blood or not) presents his report. The prisoner still protests his innocence.

**EXTRAORDINARY ATTACK.**—Mr. Thompson, a solicitor, of Bradford, was, about ten o'clock, passing on the road between Carr Syke, Heaton, and the Clockhouse Gates, in Manningham, on the night of Monday week, when a man lurking under a wall suddenly thrust out his arm, placed a pistol to Mr. Thompson's head and discharged it. The bullet passed through the left side of the upper lip, took away two of the teeth from the upper jaw, broke some of the teeth in the lower jaw, and then, passing onwards, grazed the right cheek. Mr. Thompson's assailant disappeared immediately after firing the shot. No reason can be assigned for the attack.

**A LESSON OF OBEDIENCE.**—At the Taunton Assizes last week the Court adjourned for a quarter of an hour during the trial of a case. When the Judge had returned and taken his seat a jurymen was missing. After an hour and fifty minutes he came into court, and gave, as the reason for his absence, that he had come from home without his breakfast, and had gone to take some refreshment, as he had understood two hours were allowed. Baron Channell fined him £20.

**A GIRL KILLED BY A SPANISH SAILOR.**—On Friday week Blas Ricalda, a Spanish sailor, was charged before Mr. Raffles, at the Liverpool Police Court, with having caused the death of an unfortunate girl named Westwater. The deceased while intoxicated gave the prisoner some annoyance in the street, and he struck her in the face and knocked her down. The girl's jaw was broken by the blow, and she ultimately died of inflammation of the brain. The prisoner was remanded.

**SUPPOSED MURDER AT STAMFORD.**—A few days ago Miss Pulley, a lady who lived alone at St. Martin's, Stamford, was found, in her own house, apparently burned to death. At the inquest it was decided that her death was accidental; but, from circumstances which have since come to the knowledge of the police, it is suspected that she was murdered by strangulation, and the body has been exhumed. Meanwhile a man named Henry Corby has been arrested on suspicion. It is understood that some jewellery and plate which belonged to the deceased have since her death been seen in the prisoner's possession, and that he has lately been dealing with a considerable sum of money; whereas only a week or two ago he was known to be in straitened circumstances. Stains of blood have been discovered on the hearthstone in the kitchen where the body of the deceased was found; and it is understood that other facts have come to light which indicate that the unfortunate lady was murdered.

**FEARFUL BOILER EXPLOSION.**—A fearful boiler explosion occurred at the Hazard Pit of the Blaydon Main Colliery, near Newcastle, on Tuesday. The destruction of machinery and other property was considerable, and two men were killed, and several others were more or less injured.

**THE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE AT LIVERPOOL.**—The proceedings of the Missionary Conference, which opened at Liverpool on Monday week, were brought to a close on the following Friday evening by a great public meeting in the Philharmonic Hall. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided, and was supported by a large number of clergymen and gentlemen. His Lordship made an animating speech on the duty of labouring for the spread of the Gospel in India. The meeting was also addressed by Major-General Alexander; Major Davidson, of Edinburgh; Colonel Herbert Edwards, the Rev. Hugh Stowell, and others.

**EXCOMMUNICATION.**—The *Union* explains in the following terms the nature of excommunication from the Church of Rome:—"Theologians generally define excommunication as 'an ecclesiastical sentence by which a person is excluded from the number of the members of the Church.' Such are Berlier's terms. The Abbé Lequeux is more explicit:—'Excommunication,' says he, 'is an ecclesiastical censure which deprives a person, wholly or partially, of the claims he has on the common benefits of the Church, to punish him for disobedience in some grave matter. There are several degrees of excommunication; the major excommunication is attended with very serious consequences; for instance, it deprives a person of all participation in the public prayers which the Church makes for the faithful, of the right of administering or receiving the sacraments, of the right of attending Divine service, &c.' Such is, in brief, the ecclesiastical meaning of the word 'excommunication.'"





TRUMPETER.

COSSACK.

MUSSULMAN.

CIRCASSIAN.

LESGHIAN.

#### UNIFORMS OF THE DIFFERENT CORPS COMPOSING THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA'S PERSONAL ESCORT.

#### THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA'S ESCORT.

ON all important occasions, such as grand reviews, the Emperor of Russia is accompanied by an escort like that shown in the Engraving on the preceding page. Usually the Czar drives out alone in a carriage or a sledge through the streets of his capital, and nothing can be more curious than to observe the play of his features. If he answers on his

right the salute of an officer or a soldier, of a boyar, or of a tradesman, his look is one of haughtiness; but if his attention is immediately afterwards attracted to his left by a group of his moujiks, who adore him, or of foreigners, the expression of his physiognomy is softened into a smile, and instead of placing his hand in a military fashion, on a level with his hat, he waves it graciously.

No one would for a moment think of arresting the Czar in his unattended promenades through the city of Peter the Great; the police would instantly arrest any person who offered to infringe this point of Muscovite etiquette. There is an anecdote told of Nicholas I. and the French actor Leménil which is exceedingly apropos of the matter we are touching upon. One day the Emperor, who was extremely partial to



THE ESCORT PASSING BEFORE THE EMPEROR.



the merry comedian, caught sight of him while driving down the Perspective. The Czar stopped his drosky and signed to the actor to approach, wishing to compliment him on his admirable performance of the previous evening. Scarcely had the Emperor resumed the reins when the police agents pounced upon the actor and conducted him to the corps du garde for having arrested the Sovereign in his excursion. Leménil had great difficulty in convincing the inspector that it was the Czar himself who had stopped him, and not he who had stopped the Czar. A few days after this adventure Nicholas again met Leménil and signed to him, as previously, to approach. The actor, however, to the astonishment of the Emperor, required more than one invitation, and, on being questioned by his Majesty as to his reason for not at once answering to his call, thus replied, "Pardon, Sire, but your Majesty by thus speaking to me publicly seriously compromises me," and he related to the Czar how he had been arrested by the police. [The Emperor laughed heartily at the absurdity of the affair, and presented the actor with a beautiful emerald ring to console him for the misadventure.]

The corps d'élite out of the fifteen hundred thousand men forming the Russian army are the two regiments from the Imperial guard of *Specimens*, one of infantry, the other of cavalry. These two regiments, unique in Europe, are each composed of two or three couples of men, chosen as specimens from all the regiments of the army, and from the squadrons of the Circassians, Caucasians, Georgians, Mingrelians, Cossacks, and other races subject to Russia. It is from the cavalry that the Czar's personal escort is taken, and nothing can be more wild and strange than to see them defile at a gallop, waving their swords in the air before their Sovereign. This corps strikes one as being composed of all the fugitives of the army after a sanguinary battle has been fought.

To render the contrast more striking the men march pell-mell, without any order. Thus a Cossack, with his long lance, and small, thin horse, is the companion of a burly cuirassier, mounted on a colossal steed; a hussar rides by the side of an artilleryman; a large dragoon by that of a Georgian, in his gold and white tunic; a Circassian, with his coat of mail and his casque, like a lightning-conductor, mounted upon a little horse of the steppes, which is always untamed and untamable, trots along, near the sombre Caucasian, in his black skirt, bordered with red lace.

#### SKETCHES FROM THE WAR IN MOROCCO.

In our present impression we continue the series of Illustrations of the War in Morocco that have from time to time appeared in the pages of this Journal. The first and most important is the Portrait of the Emperor, and Commander-in-Chief of the sketch from which our Engraving is taken was made at the late interview between the Generals of the two armies. It was at this interview that the preliminaries of peace between the two nations are said to have been agreed upon. The place appointed for the conference was the Plain of Osaïa, about an hour's march from Tetuan, on the road to Tangier. The tent of the Emperor's brother was pitched to the left of a beautiful meadow; some slaves who stood near the entrance held the bridles of half a dozen magnificent horses, while a little to the rear fifteen chiefs of cavalry were seated gravely on their heels within call of their commander. On a slight elevation to the right was stationed the Moorish escort, much more numerous than that brought by O'Donnell. After a simple exchange of civilities between the two Generals they began their conference, the staff on both sides keeping at a respectful distance. The energetic tones, however, of the Spanish Marshal's voice could be frequently heard, and the expression on the face of Muley Abbas, as he listened to the conqueror's demands, was

Muley Abbas, brother of the Emperor, and Commander-in-Chief of the Moorish army. The sketch from which our Engraving is taken was made at the late interview between the Generals of the two armies. It was at this interview that the preliminaries of peace between the two nations are said to have been agreed upon. The place appointed for the conference was the Plain of Osaïa, about an hour's march from Tetuan, on the road to Tangier. The tent of the Emperor's brother was pitched to the left of a beautiful meadow; some slaves who stood near the entrance held the bridles of half a dozen magnificent horses, while a little to the rear fifteen chiefs of cavalry were seated gravely on their heels within call of their commander. On a slight elevation to the right was stationed the Moorish escort, much more numerous than that brought by O'Donnell. After a simple exchange of civilities between the two Generals they began their conference, the staff on both sides keeping at a respectful distance. The energetic tones, however, of the Spanish Marshal's voice could be frequently heard, and the expression on the face of Muley Abbas, as he listened to the conqueror's demands, was

one of consternation. The only person who occasionally replied was the Emperor's Prime Minister, Mohammed-el-Ketip, whose authoritative manner of speaking would lead one to imagine that he largely possesses the confidence of his Sovereign.

All the mules that accompanied the Spanish expedition to Africa having died from starvation and other causes, it became necessary to replace them, especially as the army was contemplating marching on Tangier. With this view four hundred camels were bought at Oran, and it was wonderful to see how readily the muleteers adapted themselves to their new charges.

Our third illustration shows us one of the famous and much-talked-of body guards of the Emperor of Morocco. These cavaliers in a charge at first advance slowly in a single line, then canter, and then gallop, spurring on the horse to its last gasp, meantime standing up erect on their shovel-stirrups, and turning from one side to the other. Looking round with an air of defiance, they fire off their matchlocks, and throw themselves into various dexterous attitudes, sometimes letting fall the bridle. The pieces being discharged, the horses instantly

neously stop. The most difficult lesson a barb learns is to halt suddenly in mid-career of a full gallop. To discharge his matchlock, standing on the stirrups, while the horse is in full gallop, is the great lesson of perfection of the Marroquine soldiery. These cavaliers are sometimes called Spahis. They are composed of Moors, Arabs, Berbers, and all the native races in Morocco. They are usually plainly dressed; but, beneath the bournouse, many of them wear the Moorish dress, embroidered in the richest style; while others of them wear but the first-named garment next their skin. Some of the horses are richly caparisoned in superb harness, worked in silk and gold. Fine harness is one of the luxuries of North Africa, and is still much used even in Tunis and Tripoli, where the new system of European military dress and tactics has been introduced.

The defeat of the late Emperor's eldest son, Sidi Mohammed, at the battle of Isly, where he commanded many thousand of these cavaliers, has thrown a shade over the ancient celebrity of this Moorish corps, and these proud horsemen have since become discouraged. On that fatal day, however, none of the black body guard of the Emperor were brought into action. Our illustration is more especially taken from this portion of the Moorish cavalry. This corps, or the Aboed-Sidi-Bokhari, are soldiers who possess the most cool and undaunted courage, and, if the remainder of the army was made of such stout metal, the Spaniards would not have bought so cheap a victory; retreat with them is never thought of. Unlike the janissaries of old, their sole ambition is to obey and not to rule their Sovereign.

In a country like Morocco, of widely distinct races and hostile tribes, all naturally detesting each other, the Emperor finds in them his only safety, and this body-guard places before us the character of the negro in a very favourable light. He is at once brave and faithful, the two essential ingredients in the formation and development of heroic natures.

It may not be deemed out of place to consider for a moment the warlike propensities and qualities of the negro. Every European who has penetrated to Africa confesses to the bellicose disposition of the negro, having seen him engaged with others in perpetual conflict. The choice and retention of a body guard of blacks by the Moorish Emperor also triumphantly prove the martial nature of the negro race. But the negro has signally displayed the military qualities of coolness and courage in many instances, two or three of which we may here take the liberty of mentioning, in connection with the affairs of Algeria.

When the French invading army invested Fort de l'Empereur, and had silenced all its guns, the Dey ordered the Turkish General to retreat to the Kasbah, and leave three negroes to blow up the fort. It seemed, therefore, abandoned, but two red flags floated still on its outward line of defence, and a third on an angle towards the city. The French continued all their efforts towards effecting a practicable breach. Three negroes were now seen calmly walking on the ramparts, and from time to time looking over, as if examining the progress of the breach. One of them, struck by a cannon-ball, fell; and the others, as if to avenge his death, ran to a cannon, pointed it, and fired three shots; at the third the gun turned over, and they were unable to replace it. They tried another, and as they were in the act of raising it a shot swept the legs from under one of them. The remaining negro gazed for a moment on his comrade, drew him a little aside, left him, and once more examined the breach. He then snatched one of the flags and retired to the interior of the tower. In a few moments he reappeared, took a second flag, and descended. The French continued their cannonade and the breach appeared almost practicable, when suddenly they were astounded by a terrific explosion which shook the whole ground as with an earthquake. An immense column of smoke, mixed with streaks of flames, burst from the centre of the fortress; masses of



MULEY ABBAS, BROTHER OF THE EMPEROR OF MOROCCO.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. YRIARTE.)



BAGGAGE CAMEL OF THE SPANISH ARMY IN MOROCCO.



MOORISH CAVALIER OF THE EMPEROR'S GUARD.



solid masonry were hurled into the air to an amazing height, while cannon, stones, timbers, projectiles, and dead bodies were scattered in every direction. The negro had done his duty—the fort was blown up. In the strifes and disputes for succession that have characterised the history of the Barbary Princes, and reddened their annals with blood, nothing has been more remarkable than the fidelity of the negroes to their respective masters, and the bravery with which they have defended them to the last hour of their reign or existence. To use a vulgar metaphor, the negro will defend his master with the savage courage and tenacity of a bulldog. And this is the principal reason which has induced the despotic princes of North Africa to cherish the negroes, of whom they have encouraged a continual supply from the interior.

#### INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 123.

MR. LAWSON.

From the bottom of our hearts we pitied Mr. Wilfrid Lawson when he arose to deliver his maiden speech to the House. Mr. Lawson is the son of a daughter of the late Sir James Graham, and therefore the present Sir James's nephew. He is also the colleague of Sir James in the representation of Carlisle, which place he was elected to represent in Parliament in 1859. But, though thus nearly related to the "Netherby Knight" by blood, there cannot be much political sympathy between him and his uncle; for Mr. Lawson is a Radical of the advanced school, whereas Sir James, whatever he may be just now, is certainly not that. Well, on the night when Mr. Berkeley brought in his customary bill for the Ballot, Mr. Lawson determined to deliver his maiden speech. It was a ticklish time for Mr. Lawson, no doubt, and one to which he had looked forward with no small anxiety; but still there were not wanting encouragements. First, he knew that it is the practice of the House always to listen with courtesy and patience to a new member; secondly, he was not an unpractised speaker; for, though he had not before spoken in the House, he had often addressed popular assemblies outside, and with success; and, thirdly, he was well prepared, had studied his subject, arranged his arguments, and set his notes in due order. But, alas! Mr. Wilfrid Lawson had reckoned without his host. There was one thing which he had forgotten, and on this he was wrecked. He had forgotten that he might possibly have to rise near the dinner hour, and that when men are raptidly hungry they are never courteous. It was over seven when Mr. Lawson arose, and for some time past the House had been restless and noisy. Hardly would it listen, to Mr. Marsh whilst he showed how the Ballot had failed in Australia. Still less courtesy did it award to Mr. Porteus when he spoke; and when Mr. Lawson arose, though there were faint cries of "New member!" its patience was utterly exhausted. Nor is this surprising. Usually the House is very courteous to new members; but hunger, all over the world, overrides courtesy. At the moment when Mr. Lawson arose a hundred tables—in the dining-room, at the clubs, and in private houses—were decked with damask and plate; a hundred cooks were looking with anxiety to their spits, and waiting impatiently for the signal "to dish;" and twice a hundred obsequious flunkies were at their posts, listening for the carriage wheels and the impetuous knock of masters and guests. And, more than this, here were actually present between 300 and 400 hungry men, who knew all this, and, more impatient than cooks and flunkies, were anxious to rush away and dine. Is it wonderful, then, that when Mr. Lawson arose all the courtesy which usually waits upon new members failed? Not at all. Men will, as we know from scores of fearful narratives, eat one another when hard pressed by hunger. "Why, hang it!" said a score of loungers in the lobby and at the bar, "here's another man up." "Who is he?" "Why, it's 'Old Jemmy's' nephew. And they say he's a new member, and we must hear him." "Oh, hang your new member! He should choose a better time; are we to have our dinner spoiled through his impertinence? Come, let us put him down." And so the row began; and what a row! It began at the bar; it was echoed from the back of the chair, where other impatient malcontents had clustered; it was taken up all along the Conservative benches. Even on Mr. Lawson's own side of the House it was not less furious; and from the galleries above it poured down upon his head. It was not merely a cry of "Divide, 'divide, 'divide!" but a regular storm of groans, and cheers, and laughter, and indescribable noises. For a time Mr. Lawson stood it bravely, occasionally speaking, and at other times looking round with a sort of deprecatory and imploring look; but it was of no use. When he spoke his words were drowned in the storm, and bursts of laughter met his patient and imploring looks. And so, in about five minutes, the hon. member wisely sat down, pocketed his notes, and postponed his debut as a speaker to a more favourable time. We, however, who quietly marked the hon. member in the midst of this noisy scene, augur favourably of him; for we could not help noting that Mr. Lawson possesses at least one qualification necessary to a speaker in the House—namely, calm self-possession.

MR. STANSFELD.

On Thursday we had another maiden speech, and a much more successful one. The debutant on this occasion was Mr. Stansfeld. He is also a new member, one of the creations of the last general election. Mr. Stansfeld is member for the town of Halifax, where he was born, but he lives at Walham-green, and has forsaken the Bar to brew beer for the citizens of London. Mr. Stansfeld is also a Radical of the advanced sort. He is specially known, however, amongst the workers for Italian liberty as the fast friend of Mazzini. The Italian Republican chief, we believe, lives with Mr. Stansfeld. It is too soon to prognosticate that Mr. Stansfeld will become a power in the House of Commons; it is difficult to judge from first attempts. Many a speaker has failed at first and succeeded afterwards; whilst not a few have made tolerably good first speeches which have raised hopes which their subsequent attempts have not justified. Mr. Stansfeld's first speech must be considered a success. His ease and self-possession seemed to be perfect. What he meant to say he succeeded in saying, which is a great success to achieve in a maiden speech. His manner was easy and unaffected, if not very impressive; whilst as to his matter, if there were no very strong points, nor anything profound or new, there was certainly nothing puerile or weak. In the House Mr. Stansfeld's first attempt at speaking was universally adjudged as having been very successful. Sir John Pakington, who followed, characterised the speech as one of great ability, and in private the congratulations which the honourable member received were hearty and numerous.

#### THE REFORM BILL COUNTED OUT!

No, it was not; and we are astonished that any man who understands the House and its ways should have ventured to say it was; and yet many who pretend to be very knowing have said so; and even the *Saturday Review*, which assumes to know everything, has echoed the misstatement. The adjourned debate on the Reform Bill was down on the paper on Tuesday night; on Tuesday night the House was counted out, ergo the Reform Bill was counted out. This is the logic of the *Saturday Review* and others. Now, the fact is that the House was counted out on Tuesday night, not because the adjourned debate on the Reform Bill was on the paper, but because some other matters were on the paper, the discussion of which, if they came on, would certainly occupy too much time to allow the discussion on the Reform Bill to proceed. For example, General Upton had a motion upon some Irish harbours, and Mr. Augustus Smith had another upon the Scilly Isles and foreshores. Attempts were made to induce these gentlemen to postpone their motions, but they refused; then it was hoped that possibly these discussions might be got over about nine o'clock, and with this hope the Government saved the House when the first attempt was made to count it out. But when the hand of the clock pointed at 8.30, and General Upton was still seen on his legs drowsing about those Irish harbours, and Augustus Smith was watching to begin at least an hour-long story on the Scilly Isles, to be followed probably by speeches from other Cornish members learned in the laws and customs of foreshores, the Government saw that it would be quite impossible to get the Reform Bill on, and therefore wisely left the House to its fate. But

the Government was not counted out, for it could certainly have kept the House if it would. Well, on Thursday the debate on the Reform Bill did come on, and then an attempt was made to count out the House, and this attempt has been considered as indicative of the apathy of the House on the subject of Reform; but this is all bosh. This attempt to count out the House was a mere lark of certain fast young Conservatives, which every man about the House knew could not succeed. We remember that while the great discussion was on last year which ended in the overthrow of the Derby Government there were at one time not more than thirty members in the House.

#### THE BLEACHERS' CASE.

It is long since the poor bleachers first tried to get their case fairly before Parliament, but they did not succeed until last week. And yet they had a case, and a strong one too; and it had been investigated once by a Royal Commission, and again by a Committee of the House of Commons, and blue-books of the evidence had been published, which honourable members had duly received. But, as a rule, honourable members do not read blue-books, especially on such subjects as the wrongs of bleachers. This year, however, after long years of agitation, the cry of these poor people has penetrated the House, and their dreadful sufferings will now, doubtless, be alleviated and their wrongs redressed; and that it is time two or three extracts from these said blue-books will amply prove. The extracts are selected at random:—

Ann Simpson (fourteen years old), Elizabeth Hilton (fifteen), Sarah Higson (sixteen), say: "We came to work last Friday morning at half-past six (at Mr. Ridgway Bridson's Bleachworks, Bolton). We worked all Friday night till half-past five on Saturday morning (twenty-three hours). We did not sleep any time in the night, except on Saturday morning at half-past five we laid down to sleep on the hooking-box, and slept till a little after seven (less than two hours' sleep, and with the clothes still on, after twenty-three hours' work). Then we went to breakfast for half an hour, and then came and worked till ten minutes past eleven."

Elizabeth Edge: "I am fourteen years of age. I have worked here (at Mr. Sedden's, Brightmet Bleachworks) four years. Three months since I worked (and of course she was not working alone upon the occasion) two nights and two days. I slept four hours the first morning, and not at all the next night. I worked twice in the fancy-room, hooking, all night long, about five months since. I have very often worked till twelve."

Mary Ann Smith: "Last Saturday I was twelve years old. . . . I came here nearly three years ago. Six times in that time I have worked from six in the morning till half-past two the next (twenty hours and a half). Once I worked from six in the morning till six the next morning (twenty-four hours). I have to rub my instep every night before I can get my clogs off. The skin cracks, and I cannot abide sometimes. One of my fingers is gathering from being cut by the selvedge, and the other is running."

Of course we have not space to go thoroughly into the case of these poor, suffering people. These extracts, however, will be sufficient to give our readers just a glimpse into the horrors which have been endured in these bleaching-works; but it is only a glimpse. There are worse cases even than these; but we have purposely avoided the worst, preferring to give rather an average view than to quote what possibly may have been somewhat exceptional instances.

#### IT GETS BEFORE THE HOUSE, AND TRIUMPHS.

It was on the Wednesday of last week that the second reading of the Bleachers' Bill came on. The promoters of the bill were Mr. Crook and Mr. Cobbett; the chief opponent was Mr. Aspinall Turner, the member for Manchester. Several master bleachers were present to back Mr. Turner, and a few of the men were also in the gallery to listen to the pleadings of Messrs. Crook and Cobbett. Every Session for three years past there has been a bleachers' bill before the House, but it has generally been dealt with in a very summary manner. Sometimes it got through the first reading, but never the second; for, until this year, the House had not turned its attention to the subject, and so these bills were left to the mercy of the manufacturers, and they of course made very short work with them. But this time a glance at the House showed that, somehow or other, the House had been thoroughly roused to the consideration of the question. Formerly these bills used to be hustled out of the House at one or two o'clock in the morning, when only some forty or fifty members were present, but now the time is 4 p.m., and there are over three hundred in the House. But still the masters were confident, and the men had but little hope. The former had so often been triumphant that they did not doubt for a moment of victory; the latter had so often been defeated that hope in them was almost dead. Our practised eye, however, soon discovered that all was changed since last this bill was presented to the House. There was a grand array of country gentlemen present, which was an ominous circumstance for the master bleachers. When Mr. Turner was making his statement there was evidently a disinclination to listen, which sometimes broke out into expressions of impatience, whilst the speeches of the advocates of the bill were received with applause. These and many other signs led us to expect a victory. But the result went far beyond our hopes; for, on a division, the numbers were—For the bill, 236; against it only 39.

#### MR. ROEBUCK'S SPEECH.

Next to the triumphant victory of the bleachers, which crowned this debate, the most remarkable feature of it was Mr. Roebuck's speech; and if any of our readers have not seen the speech we advise them to get it at once and read it, and, if they have commonplace books, to stick it therein, and write upon it, "One of the most remarkable speeches that ever was delivered in the House." It may be asked *was this*, then, so great a speech? No; it was not what would be called a great speech at all; for, in the first place, it was short, occupying not more than five-and-twenty minutes at most; in the next, there was no lengthened train of reasoning in this speech—no wit—no figures—no ornate, passionate declamation. But still, though not a "great," it was a most remarkable speech, for it was wonderfully effective. This was its notable feature. Indeed, the effect produced by this speech was altogether greater of its kind than we ever saw produced in the House of Commons—we say of its kind, for the effect produced was very different to that which we usually see as the result of speaking here. Generally, as our readers know, by an effective speech we mean one which stirs the House to enthusiasm and evokes uproarious cheers; and whenever we see in thereof a speech the words "loud cheers," "continued cheers," "long-continued cheering," &c., we conclude it to have been an effective speech. Well, of such effectiveness as this there was but little produced by Mr. Roebuck's speech. Cheering of the enthusiastic kind there was none, nor indeed cheering at all, in the common meaning of the word. But still it was, indeed, a most effective speech, and for this reason—it touched and moved the hearers' hearts to the very depths. Cheers there were, no doubt; but all who heard them will bear us out in saying that they were more like sighs than cheers. And, further, this was an effective speech because it affected the division. Of this we think there cannot be a doubt. How many votes Mr. Roebuck turned, of course, cannot be known; but the agent for the bleachers (the men, we mean) lays the number at a hundred; and the masters do not scruple to say that it was Roebuck's speech that "did the mischief." This, however, is an exaggeration. If Mr. Roebuck had not spoken the bill would have passed with a majority; but, unquestionably, the speech helped very much to swell the majority, and to turn the defeat into a rout. And no one who heard Mr. Roebuck can be surprised: for the time he had the House completely at his command, and as a skilful performer plays upon an instrument so he played upon its feelings.

THE AUSTRIAN DEFAULCATIONS.—Eighty-two persons are in custody for being concerned in the malversations in the Austrian army. Arrests continue to be effected at Brunn, Prague, and Pesth. The malversations are stated to date from the battle of Solferino. On the sudden conclusion of an armistice, numerous contracts for supplies to the army were entered into, subject to the condition that, in the event of peace being concluded, the contractors should be allowed indemnities. The greater part of these contracts were fictitious, being only made to obtain the indemnities; and by means of them the Government was defrauded of millions. General Eynatten and his accomplices shared with the contractors the sums so obtained. The Appeal Court of Vienna has confirmed the decision of an inferior tribunal that M. Richter, director of the *Crédit Mobilier*, shall be brought to trial on the charge of bribing a public functionary to cause him to commit an abuse of power. From this it would appear that money was given to General Eynatten to cause him to receive supplies.

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23.  
HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### THE PURCHASE SYSTEM.

On the motion for the second reading of the Mutiny Bill, Lord PANMURE called the attention of the House to the present system of promotion in the Army by the sale and purchase of commissions. He pointed out at some length its various advantages, and refuted the various objections which had been brought against it. The "selection" system, he thought, would be destructive of that good feeling which at present existed in the Army, and would impose on the Commander-in-Chief a most invidious task. In considering the financial view of the question he asked whether Lieutenant-Colonels who had purchased their commissions above the regulation price, if they applied for leave to sell out, were only to be allowed to receive the regulation price? because, if so, it was a decided fraud upon them, as they had bought their commissions upon a totally different understanding.

Lord DE GREY and RIBON said the speech of Lord Panmure would have been very appropriate if it had been the intention of the Government entirely to abolish the purchase system. However, no such intention existed. It was indispensable, in the higher grades of the Army, in most cases, to adopt the system of selection; and the new regulations only proposed to make the principle of selection compulsory instead of optional. He felt convinced that the adoption of this principle, approved as it was by the Commission, would not only increase the efficiency of the Army, but remove one of the greatest scandals which at present attached to it.

Lord LUCAN considered that the system of purchase had worked well. There might be more scientific officers in foreign armies, but there were none more loyal, more faithful, or more brave than the English officers. If the system of selection were to be adopted as the rule, it would give rise to much discontent, lead to the resignation of officers passed over, and degenerate into a system of promotion by seniority—the worst system of all.

The Duke of SOMERSET thought the post of Lieutenant-Colonel in command of a regiment was too serious a trust to be either bought or sold. There was no difficulty in selecting fit officers, as private documents existed at the Horse Guards describing the capacity and character of every officer in the service. Selection did not mean that the officer passed over was bad, but that the promoted officer was better. The real question was, whether the interests of the officer or the public were to be considered—a question which could only admit of one answer.

Lord GREY said that, under a system of selection, it would be impossible to get rid of the influences of favour and interest. Supposing the plan to be carried out impartially, it would soon degenerate either into a regular selection of the senior Major or of consulting that officer, before another was placed over him, to sell out, in order to avoid the imputation that he was incompetent to command a regiment. It would be much better for the Government to abolish promotion by purchase at once than to adopt the plan they proposed.

The Duke of CAMBRIDGE would not enter into the arguments which had been adduced, as his own opinions were already sufficiently known by his evidence given before the Commission. All he wished to say was that, whatever was the decision of Parliament on the subject, he would do his best to carry out that decision as frankly and fairly as possible.

After some remarks from Lord Hardinge, Lord Panmure, and the Duke of Somerset, their Lordships adjourned.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### THE NORWICH ELECTION.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE moved for the issue of new writs for the election of members for the city of Norwich, in the room of Mr. Schneider and Lord Bury, whose elections had been determined to be void.

The motion, which raised some nice and complicated questions, and led to a sharp debate, was ultimately agreed to.

##### THE SPANISH IN MOROCCO.—SAVOY.—OUR NATIVE INDIAN ARMY.

On the motion for adjournment till Monday various subjects were brought to the attention of the House, principally in the form of inquiries, expanded into statements, several of the subjects being debated.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in answer to Colonel Dunne, who inquired what guarantee had been received from the Spanish Government that there would not be a protracted occupation of Tangier, said that that Government had given an assurance that Tangier should not be permanently occupied. In reply to a question put by Mr. Stirling, whether he would lay upon the table those portions of his private correspondence with our Ambassador at Paris referred to in the Ambassador's despatch of the 3th of February, reporting certain observations of Count Walewski on the necessity of annexing Savoy and Nice to France, he declined to accede to the proposal. He thought, he said, that the published papers would supply all the information desired. He entered into explanations, founded upon the papers to which he referred, as to the intimation which the Government had received of the intention of the Emperor of the French regarding the annexation, a question, he observed, which was dependent upon the assembling of the Congress, which did not assemble. With regard to the answer of the Government to the communication from M. Thouvenel, he had not produced it, he said, as he intended, because an appeal had been made by Switzerland, and the subject was now a matter of negotiation and communication with the different Powers of Europe.

Mr. DISRAELI thought Lord J. Russell, in referring to the Congress in connection with the intimation from the French Government, had changed his position. With respect to private letters, he thought that they should be recorded in the Foreign Office, and that Lord John was bound to give extracts of those letters.

Lord PALMERSTON differed from Mr. Disraeli upon both points.

The discussion upon this subject, which was of a discursive character, was pursued for some time, and the Speaker more than once interposed on the ground of its irregularity.

Sir C. WOOD stated, in reply to Colonel Sykes, that there was no foundation for the report that the native regular army of India was to be abolished.

The motion for the adjournment was agreed to.

##### THE INCOME TAX.—WAYS AND MEANS.

On the order for going into Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. AYTON called attention to a petition from St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, respecting frauds in the collection of the income tax, and he complained that no effectual steps had been taken to prosecute the delinquents. He asked whether the Commissioners of Inland Revenue had taken precautionary measures to prevent a repetition of these frauds?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER observed that the delinquents were, with one exception, officers of the local authorities, and that it was his intention to propose a bill by which the collectors of taxes would be brought under the control of the Government.

The House then went into a Committee of Ways and Means, when the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a resolution that there be paid for one year, commencing on the 6th of April, 1860, upon the annual value of property, except that chargeable under Schedule B of the Act 16 and 17 Victoria, c. 34, the rate of 10d. in the pound, and for and in respect of the occupation of lands, tenements, &c., chargeable under Schedule B, the rate of 3d. in the pound in England, and 3d. in the pound in Scotland and Ireland. He observed that he had shown in his financial statement that the revenue, with the additions he had proposed, would leave a surplus of £400,000, and any reduction of the rate specified in the resolution would convert the apparent surplus into a deficiency.

Sir H. WILLIAMS moved to substitute "9d." for "10d." He dissented from the policy of the Budget, by which taxes, he said, were thrown away, and the necessity for the addition to the income tax arose from a deficiency wilfully created by the Government. He believed that, if the expenditure were regulated, and the revenue was not, as it had been for years past, understated, there would be no need for the increase of a tax which was thoroughly unjust, unequal, and odious.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER resisted this amendment, remarking that, if we had parted injudiciously with revenue, that was no reason for not making provision for the service of the year.

After a long discussion the amendment was negatived upon a division by 187 to 132.

Some further discussion ensued, and the resolution was agreed to. Resolutions imposing stamp duties upon contract notes, 1d.; upon dock warrants, 3d.; upon delivery orders, 1d.; upon extracts of registers of births, &c., 1d.; upon notes authorising entries in a coast-book of transfers of shares, 6d.; also upon bills of exchange, draughts, or orders, heritable bonds, agreements, powers of attorney, powers of appointment, and declarations in lieu of affidavit, were likewise agreed to.

The remaining orders having been disposed of the House adjourned.

MONDAY, MARCH 26.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

In the House of Lords little business was done. The Mutiny Bill and the Marine Mutiny Bill were passed through Committee, and the House then adjourned, at about six o'clock.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### THE ANNEXATION OF SAVOY.

On the report of the Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. HOBBS called attention to matters connected with the foreign policy of the country. After referring to various subjects of importance he rapidly reviewed the course of transactions concerning the annexation of Savoy, and complained that the recent despatch of M. Thouvenel had not



been given to the House. He acknowledged the prudence of the rule that when political complications arose, it was right to leave the Government untrammelled; but it was a different thing, he observed, when an opposite power was acting. The question of Savoy had gone through successive phases, every one of which was an act, while our Government thought they were negotiating. It was an important duty of that House to watch the conduct of the Government, and it was a serious question what was the limit to the privilege of members to criticise its policy towards foreign Powers. He vindicated the right of that assembly to freedom of speech, and he denounced the recent policy of the Emperor of the French in Italy as a policy of deceit, which had deceived the English Ministers, and made them his tools for deceiving Parliament. He had treated them with a duplicity which they had not the candour to avow, adding insult to injury and perfidy to injustice.

Lord J. Russell said that, with regard to Savoy, he (Lord John) had told the House what our Ambassador in France had said and what had been said by our Minister at Turin on the subject; and the moment that he had learnt what the Emperor of the French meant by referring the question to the great Powers of Europe he had communicated it to the House. They knew now what was the opinion of Austria and of Russia, and he assured the House that, with regard to her Majesty's Government, they would not be ashamed of its answer to M. Thouvenin's despatch. There were, however, important matters connected with this question distinct from that of Savoy. The independence of Switzerland had been guaranteed by the great Powers of Europe; and, as a part of Savoy had been declared to be neutral, it was obvious that its transfer to France was a great change in the condition of that territory, and Switzerland had applied to the great Powers to preserve its neutrality intact. This subject required, in the opinion of her Majesty's Government, that the sentiments of the Courts of Vienna, Berlin, and St. Petersburg should be ascertained; and they would be called upon to say whether the neutrality of Switzerland would be safe after this transfer. This was a negotiation which could not be carried on by that House. For these reasons, and with a view of giving more information to the House than he could at present, he had withheld the papers. With regard to the Emperor of the French, it was obvious that the course he had pursued had produced great distrust. Had an open bargain between France and Sardinia been declared at the beginning, he did not know that a great deal of indignation would have been expressed; but the manner in which the affair had been conducted had produced distrust in that House, and, he believed, all over Europe. His opinion was that such an act as the annexation of Savoy was one that would lead a nation so warlike as the French to call, from time to time, for other similar acts; and he felt that if it was our wish to live on the most friendly terms with the French Government we ought not to keep ourselves apart from the other nations of Europe, in order that, when future questions might arise, we might be ready to act with them, and to declare, in the most moderate and friendly terms, but firmly, that the peace of Europe could not be secure if it was liable to perpetual interruptions.

Lord J. Manners said he had heard with pleasure the declaration of Lord J. Russell with regard to alliances and the maintenance of friendly relations with other Powers.

Mr. Bright observed that the question what was the direct and clear interest of this country in the subject of discussion was always evaded. He stood there for the interests of England; he repudiated altogether the part taken by Sir R. Peel and Mr. Kinglake on behalf of Switzerland and Sardinia. Sardinia agreed to the transfer of Savoy (politically, he considered it a worthless province), and she had compensated France by this transfer for what she had done for her in the Italian war. England ought to be glad that the score had been settled rather than that Sardinia should consider herself indebted to France, and bound up in a kind of alliance with her. He did not believe the country was alarmed about the matter. All had given it up except Mr. Horsman and one or two others. If that gentleman desired to make war upon the Treasury bench he should not attack it when right. With reference to the concluding portion of the speech of Lord J. Russell, he thought the course he proposed to take was wise and good—viz., that the policy of England should not be to estrange her from other nations. He did not advocate a policy of isolation; but a policy of isolation was, in his opinion, better than one of continual meddling.

After some observations by Lord C. Hamilton, Mr. Kinglake said the speech of Mr. Bright was truly characteristic of the man, disclosing a perfect reliance upon his own opinion, and ignorance of the views of others. If he had attended to what had been said upon this question, he would have known it had been demonstrated that the faith of treaties, military considerations, and other reasons, conducted to make it of the deepest importance that England should prevent this unsettling of Europe.

#### THE BUDGET.

Sir H. Willoughby interrupted the flow of discussion upon foreign policy and directed it to the subject of the report, with especial reference to the income tax, and a debate of considerable length ensued, which expanded into a general criticism upon the Budget, direct and indirect taxation, the tea and sugar duties, the paper duty, the trade in rags, the mode of assessing the income tax under the different schedules, the readjustment of the tax, and the funds attending its collection.

On the resolution imposing a stamp duty upon contract notes, Mr. Bentinck observed that this resolution went to legalise time bargains, which were expressly forbidden under severe penalties, by the Act 7th of George II., and he wished to know upon what ground the Government, while they exerted themselves to suppress the practice of gambling, proposed to legalise the most mischievous and ruinous system of gambling ever invented.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said the law referred to was an absolute dead letter. The question was, not whether foolish persons should be permitted to ruin themselves by time bargains, with which they had no business, but whether the respectable class of persons who dealt in money on the Stock Exchange should be interdicted from transactions which included nothing essentially immoral.

The report was ultimately agreed to.

#### WINE LICENSES.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in moving the second reading of the Refreshment Houses and Wine Licenses Bill, said the aim of the Government in proposing this limited measure was to avoid any interference with the interests of licensed victuallers, or of those who held licenses for the sale of beer, beyond what was absolutely necessary to attain the scope of the bill. The measure arose from a fiscal provision; but it had an important bearing upon public morals and public sobriety, which it was one object of the bill to promote. The main objects of the bill were three—first, enlarged means for the sale of wine not to be consumed on the premises, subject to a moderate license duty; second, to bring all houses in which any description of refreshment was sold under the control of the police, and make them liable to a small license duty, with certain exceptions; third, to license eating-houses for the sale of wine. It was an error, he said, to suppose that all refreshment-houses were to be allowed to sell wine; on the contrary, a distinction was drawn between refreshment-houses and eating-houses. He then explained the leading provisions of the bill, relating to police control (very stringent powers being given to the magistrates), the renewal of licenses, and penalties.

The debate was adjourned. The House then went into Committee on the Customs Acts, when certain resolutions were agreed to.

The Consolidated Fund Bill was read a third time and passed.

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 27.

##### HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords, having sat for a short time without transacting any business of importance, adjourned at a quarter to six o'clock.

##### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

###### SAVOY.

In the House of Commons, in reply to an inquiry by Mr. Cochrane as to the day when he would bring forward his motion respecting the annexation of Savoy and Nice.

Mr. Kinglake said the statement made by Lord J. Russell the preceding night had superseded the motion of which he had given notice, and he should not feel it to be his duty to ask for the interference of the House so long as he continued to believe that her Majesty's Ministers were faithfully labouring to carry out the policy they had announced.

###### MR. CHURCHWARD'S CONTRACT.

Captain Vernon called attention to the report of the Packet and Telegraphic Contracts Committee, and moved a resolution to the effect that the House was of opinion that the contract, entered into on the 26th of April, 1859, between the Admiralty and Joseph George Churchward, ought to be fulfilled. He urged that the decision which the Committee came to, which was in substance that Mr. Churchward used his influence at the election for Dover, and offered to support Captain Carnegie, then a Lord of the Admiralty, with a view to obtaining this contract, and that therefore it ought not to be fulfilled, was unjust, and ought not to be adhered to. In commenting on Mr. Churchward's connection with the Admiralty, in a character he then held as a writer in the daily press, the hon. and gallant member caused considerable amusement by reading extracts of letters from officials at the Admiralty, giving hints for paragraphs and articles in the *Morning Herald*.

Sir F. Baring said that the votes by which the principal points of the report were carried in the Committee were given by members of every party. He contended that the original contract entered into with Mr. Churchward was not so desirable a one as to render it advisable to rescind it. He admitted that Mr. Churchward, even in his time, was useful to the Admiralty in the press, a matter which

was almost a necessity to a Government department which had to defend itself against newspaper attacks, but at that time he was not a contractor. The evidence before the Committee led them to the opinion that Mr. Churchward believed that he got his contract for his promise of assistance in a Parliamentary election. On the whole, he urged that the Committee only did their duty in recommending the rescinding of the contract.

Sir S. Northcote said that all that was asked was that the House should not preclude itself from reconsidering the question of this contract—one which he contended had been entered into on fair and reasonable grounds.

Mr. Lamb, as a member of the Committee, wished to state that he thought the issue involved was whether Mr. Churchward had attempted to use undue influence in order to obtain the renewal of his contract; and it was the opinion of the majority of the Committee that such an attempt had been made. This, he thought, was a sufficient moral justification for the House to decline to ratify the contract.

Mr. Malins argued that the contract was virtually concluded before anything connected with the political and parliamentary matter had arisen, and the question now was one of national faith in holding to public contracts.

The Solicitor-General, Lord Lovaine, Lord C. Paget, and Sir F. Kelly having spoken,

Mr. Bouvier pointed out that this was a question of the supervision of the public expenditure; and he entirely concurred in the decision to which the Committee had come.

Mr. Whiteside protested against the doctrine that public contracts were liable to be rescinded, as was proposed in the present instance.

Mr. Gladstone denied that the present Government had done any act by which they recognised this contract. The whole question was whether the contract was to be renewed for seven years after its present term, which was yet to be decided by the House, without reference to any damage which Mr. Churchward might have suffered as was implied by the present motion. It was the duty of the Government, and the House also, to support the decision of a Committee which had been appointed with the utmost impartiality, and had carefully examined into the subject.

Sir J. Parkinson explained and defended the part he had been alleged to have taken in the transactions relating to the Dover election, and said that, if anything, he was to blame for not knowing enough of what was going on, especially with regard to the contract with Mr. Churchward. He denied that there was any evidence which convicted Mr. Churchward of corruption.

After a few observations from Mr. G. W. Hope, the House divided, and the motion was lost, the numbers being:—For the motion, 117; against it, 162: majority, 45.

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28.

##### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

###### CHURCH RATES.

After the presentation of a vast number of petitions on the subject, Sir J. Trevelyan moved the order of the day, that the House do resolve itself into a Committee upon the Church-rates Abolition Bill.

Mr. Packer urged various objections to the measure, which he considered to be unnecessarily large, and, with reference to the amount of public opinion in favour of it, he observed that, in some of the most populous towns and boroughs whence petitions had been presented upon this question, which he contended was a purely religious one, upwards of one-half of the inhabitants attended no place of worship whatever.

Mr. Newdegate moved, as an amendment, a resolution—the same he had brought forward last year,—that "this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee to consider the propriety of establishing, in lieu of church-rates, thenceforth to be abolished, a charge on all hereditaments in respect of the occupancy of which church rates have been paid within the last seven years, to be levied with the county rate at a uniform rate of poundage, the occupier being entitled to deduct the amount of the charge levied on his occupancy." He insisted that church-rates were a charge upon property, and by proposing to assess owners instead of occupiers he had, he said, followed a principle adopted by the House of Lords.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. Cass. Mr. Horsman observed that the House had admitted that a settlement of this question was desirable, and that it could only be effected by a Government measure. He thought Sir J. Trevelyan ought to appeal to the Government to bring in a measure for that purpose.

Sir J. Trevelyan said he had from the beginning urged the Government to deal with this question, but their measures would not have settled the question any more than Mr. Newdegate's proposition.

The amendment was supported by Mr. Henley. Lord Henley opposed it, and said total abolition was the only satisfactory mode of settling the question.

Mr. Phillips, although he thought Mr. Newdegate's plan was liable to some objections, in the absence of any other plan or a substitute for church rates, should, he said, vote for the amendment.

Sir M. Peto said nothing would satisfy Dissenters but the unconditional and absolute repeal of an impost which, being a personal rate, affected their consciences.

Mr. Watlington admitted that a plea of a conscientious grievance was a strong one; but this bill would, he said, give a relief and an advantage to the few by inducing an injustice upon the many. He could not, however, support the amendment.

Mr. Evans supported the bill.

Lord J. Manners said, retaining all his objections to the principle and details of the bill, he must oppose, though reluctantly, the amendment, considering that, as that House had assented to the principle of the bill, it would be better that it should be sent up to the House of Lords as they found it. He should prefer the bill in its naked simplicity to taking it with the amendment proposed by Sir G. Grey, to substitute pew-rents for church rates, which would affect the rights of the poor.

Sir G. Grey said he should be prepared in Committee to demonstrate to Lord J. Manners that his fears in relation to his proposal were unfounded.

Mr. Mellor denied that church rates were a charge upon property. He thought the Church would sustain no injury by the abolition of church rates and by leaving it free action.

Mr. A. Mills supported the amendment, observing that it did not lie upon the friends of the Church to propose a compromise upon this question.

Mr. Walter said the amendment adopted a principle inapplicable to church rates. He had no doubt that voluntary contributions would provide a substitute for the rate; but he saw no reason, in theory or practice, why a limited recourse should not be had to pew-rents.

After a few words from Admiral Walcott, the House divided, when the amendment was negatived by 222 to 49.

The House then went into Committee upon the bill, the clauses of which having been agreed to.

Sir G. Grey moved three new clauses, authorising the charging of appropriated pews with rents, to be applied to the repair of the fabric of the church and to other purposes to which church rates would have been applicable.

The proposal encountered a very strong opposition from Mr. Estcourt, Mr. Walpole, Lord J. Manners, Mr. Horsman, and other members; and the first of the clauses was negatived, deciding the fate of the other two.

##### ARMY ESTIMATES.—INCOME TAX.

In a Committee of Supply votes on account for Army Estimates were agreed to after a short conversation.

The House then went into Committee upon the Income-tax Bill, the clauses of which were agreed to.

The remaining business having been disposed of, the House adjourned.

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 29.

##### HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Dwellings for Labouring Classes (Ireland) Bill passed through Committee.

The Marriages (Extra Parochial Places) Bill was read a second time. The Consolidated Fund (£850,000) Bill passed through Committee.

The Earl of Carnarvon inquired whether it was the intention of the Government to allow an exemption of the horse tax in respect of the yeomanry cavalry during the present year?—The Duke of Newcastle replied in the affirmative.

##### INDIA.—MR. WILSON'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Earl of Ellenborough wished to know whether the Government had as yet received a copy of the speech of Mr. Wilson upon Indian finance? He thought that the true policy of this country was to endeavour to conciliate the natives; but he was inclined to believe that the system of taxation suggested by Mr. Wilson would have a directly contrary tendency. He felt convinced that any attempt to collect the taxes imposed in so wholesale a manner as was proposed in the bill of the hon. gentleman would lead to a greater extortion and would create universal discontent.

The Duke of Argyll said that copies of the speech had been sent to the Secretary of State and to the members of the Legislative Council, but Mr. Wilson himself was individually responsible for that speech; consequently it would not be laid upon the table as a Parliamentary paper. With regard, however, to the financial scheme of Mr. Wilson, it must be remembered that when that hon. gentleman arrived in India he found that there was a deficiency of £9,000,000 staring him in the face, which it was impossible to meet without resorting to some new mode of taxation.

Lord Lytton thought, at any rate, some information should be laid before Parliament, in order to enable them to discuss the question on an early day.

The Duke of Argyll said as soon as any bill or official despatch was received it would be laid on the table, and the whole question might then be discussed.

After some conversation the subject dropped.—Adjourned.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### BERWICK ELECTION PETITION.

Mr. F. Peel brought up the report of the Berwick-upon-Tweed Election Committee, which declared that Mr. Marjoribanks had been duly elected; that extensive bribery prevailed at the last election, but that it was not committed with the sanction or authority of Mr. Marjoribanks, or Mr. Hodgson, the Conservative candidate.

##### THE ANNEXATION QUESTION.

Sir R. Peel gave notice of his intention to-morrow to call attention to the position of Switzerland in reference to the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France.

##### CARDINAL ANTONELLI'S DESPATCH TO THE FRENCH MINISTRY.

Lord J. Russell, in reply to Mr. Bowyer, said he had not received a copy of Cardinal Antonelli's despatch to M. Thouvenin; but he had been informed that Cardinal Antonelli had intimated to the British agent at Rome that he was about to forward such a despatch; and as soon as the Government received a copy of it it would be laid upon the table of the House.

##### THE REFORM BILLS.

Mr. Cardwell, in reply to Mr. Maguire, said he saw no prospect of the second reading of the Reform Bill for Ireland before Easter, and would therefore postpone the motion for the second reading until Friday, the 20th of April.

Lord J. Russell, in reply to Mr. Roebuck, said he intended to proceed with the English Reform Bill to-morrow.

##### THE MURDER OF CAPTAIN LAMBERT AT LIMA.

Lord J. Russell, in reply to Mr. Turner in reference to the robbery and murder of Captain Lambert, of her Majesty's ship *Pica*, at Lima, said that that outrage had no political character whatever. It was committed solely for the purpose of plunder. The culprits would therefore be left to be dealt with by the laws of Peru.

##### THE ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer having moved that the notices of motion be postponed until the Income-tax Bill had been disposed of, several hon. members who had notices on the paper expressed their objections to give way.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer ultimately withdrew his proposition.

##### INDIA.

Colonel Sykes moved for certain returns connected with the organisation of the Indian army. The hon. and gallant officer urged the necessity of maintaining a local army upon a well-defined and substantial basis as a measure both of security and economy.

In the course of the discussion which ensued,

Sir C. Wood declined to produce the papers moved for, on the ground that the Government had not as yet come to a determination upon the question raised; and the production of the papers would have the effect of prejudging a case before the whole of the information required had been obtained.

The motion was negatived without a division.

##### THE SHIPPING INTEREST.—THE TRADE WITH FRANCE.

Mr. Lindsay moved that an humble address be presented to her Majesty praying that she will be graciously pleased to enter into negotiations with the Emperor of the French with the view of making a treaty for the reciprocal abrogation of all discriminating duties levied upon the vessels and their cargoes of either of the two nations in the ports of the other; and for procuring such alterations in the navigation laws of France as may tend to facilitate the commercial intercourse and strengthen the friendly relations between England and France.

Mr. Horsfall seconded the motion. Mr. M. Gibson said the Government would not only assent to the motion, but they would take every fitting opportunity of effecting the object of it. After some conversation the motion was agreed to.

##### TENURE AND IMPROVEMENT OF LAND IN IRELAND.

Mr. Cardwell, in a speech of some length, asked leave to bring in a bill to amend the law in reference to the above subject. The right hon. gentleman observed that the prosperous state of Ireland at the present moment was auspicious for legislation on this subject. The chief provisions of his bill were to enable limited owners or tenants for life to borrow money for improvements, with the consent of the Chairman of the county. In the case of tenants with leases, to extend the power of granting improvement leases from twenty-one years to forty years, and to vest in corporate bodies the same power as would be possessed by individual proprietors. In the case of tenants at will he proposed not to give retrospective compensation, but that when a tenant wished to improve he should give three months' notice of such intention to his landlord, that, if his landlord should object to those improvements, he might terminate the tenancy with the view, not of eviction, but to the conclusion of a written agreement as to the holding and the improvement of the land. If the landlord took no step in the matter, then the tenant might make his improvements, and go to the Chairman of the county and obtain a provisional certificate granting him an annuity of £7 2s. per cent per annum for twenty-five years on every £100 so laid out on improvements. There were several other details mentioned, but of a minor character.

Lord Fermoy objected to the measure generally. He thought it would be better to allow the existing law to continue rather than to interfere with it by that sort of legislative quackery.

Several of the Irish members expressed their strong disapproval of the measure.

Leave was, however, given to introduce the bill.

The Attorney-General for Ireland obtained leave to bring in a bill to consolidate and amend the law of landlord and tenant in Ireland, the provisions of which he would state upon another occasion.

Mr. P. Uquhart, amid much laughter and cries of "No, no!" obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to landlord and tenant in Ireland; also a bill to amend the law relating to emblements in Ireland.

#### OVERLAND TRAVELLERS AT POINTE DE GALLE, CEYLON.

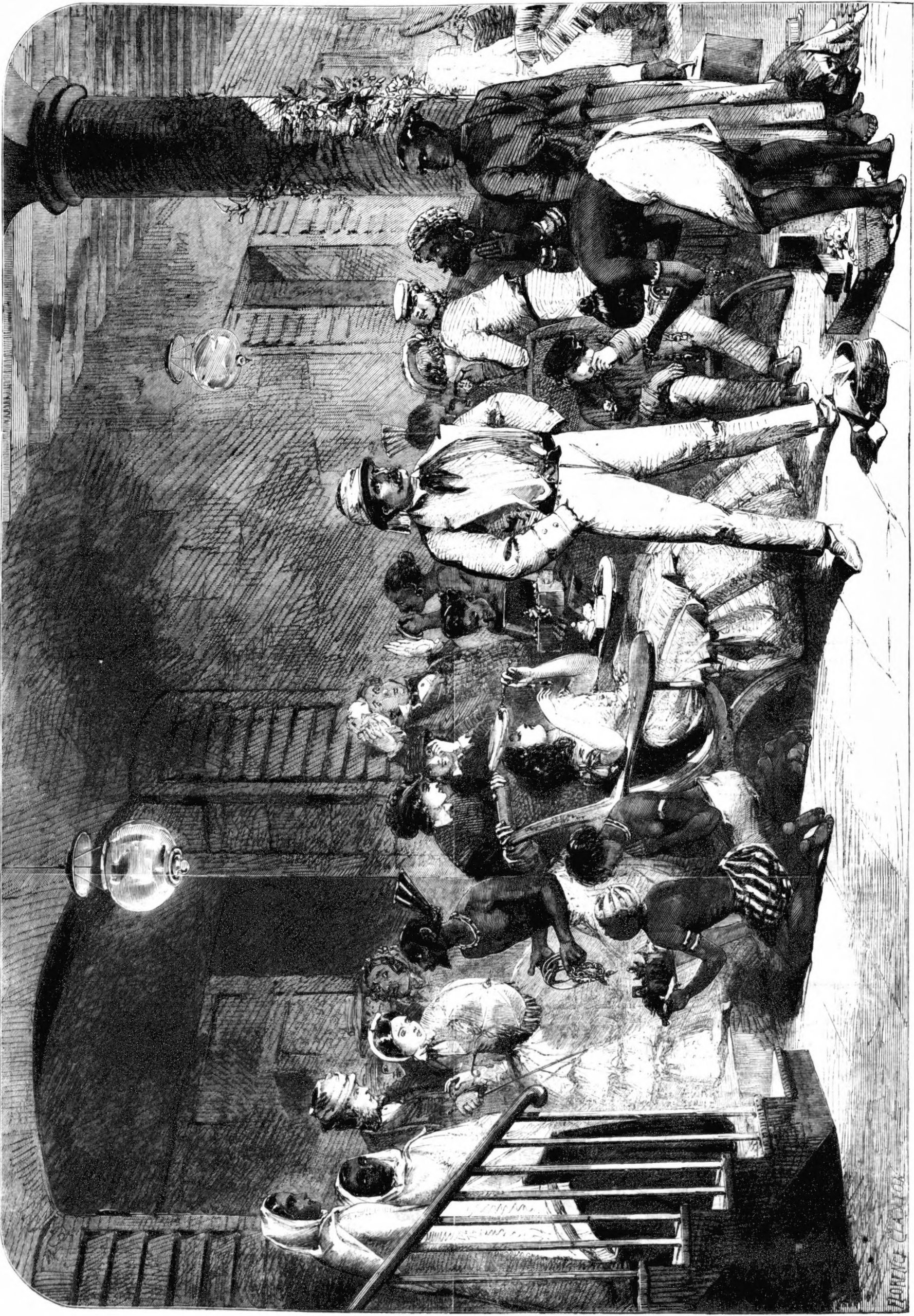
THE hotel at Pointe de Galle is a scene of much excitement on the arrival of each overland mail for India. A brief sojourn is here made by the travellers, who are frequently the victims of the extortionate natives, who offer all kinds of gems and carved work in ivory for sale. The following is a description of the traders by whom the travellers are attacked:—"Tall men, endued in large bed-curtains from neck to heels, and others almost in a state of nudity, with raven tresses fastened on the back of the head by large tortoiseshell combs, offered—nay, pressed upon us—every variety of article for which we could have no use. Umbrellas from China, made of paper and bamboo, price 1s.; slippers of every cutting, hard fibre; ebony sticks; canes of cinnamon, jasmine, and orange; boxes of porcupine quills; Bombay inlaid cases for cigars and ladies' work, and cards made of carved sandal-wood; elephants of ebony for paper weights; ornaments of elephants' tusks; collections of diamonds, sapphires, rubies, emeralds, cats'-eyes, opals—which you might buy cheaply and yet not find worth the money. In effect, Galle is the metropolis of false stones. One man had a cat's-eye for which he would not take less, he said, than £500. He had another for which he wanted 20 rupees, or £2. He changed his hands, and one could not tell the difference. After a hard bargain a gentleman present abated the price of a gorgeous ring from £15 to 35s. A neighbouring jeweller instantly offered the purchaser the counterpart for 12s., saying, at the same time, 'This real stone; other real glass.'"

Miss Claxton's clever pencil has graphically rendered the scene, of fortnightly occurrence, in the verandah of the hotel at Pointe de Galle.

TRADE AND NAVIGATION RETURNS.—The accounts relating to the trade and navigation of the United Kingdom for the month and the two months ended February 29th last, have been issued. The exports show a large increase over the corresponding periods of 1859 and 1858. In the month the figures are, 1858, £27,388,416; 1859, £29,614,143; 1860, £10,721,940. For the two months, 1858, £51,510,016; 1859, £10,207,566; 1860, £20,088,437. The imports are given only for the month of January. In the first month of the present year the computed value of the principal articles of import was £5,155,718; in 1859 it was £3,879,248.

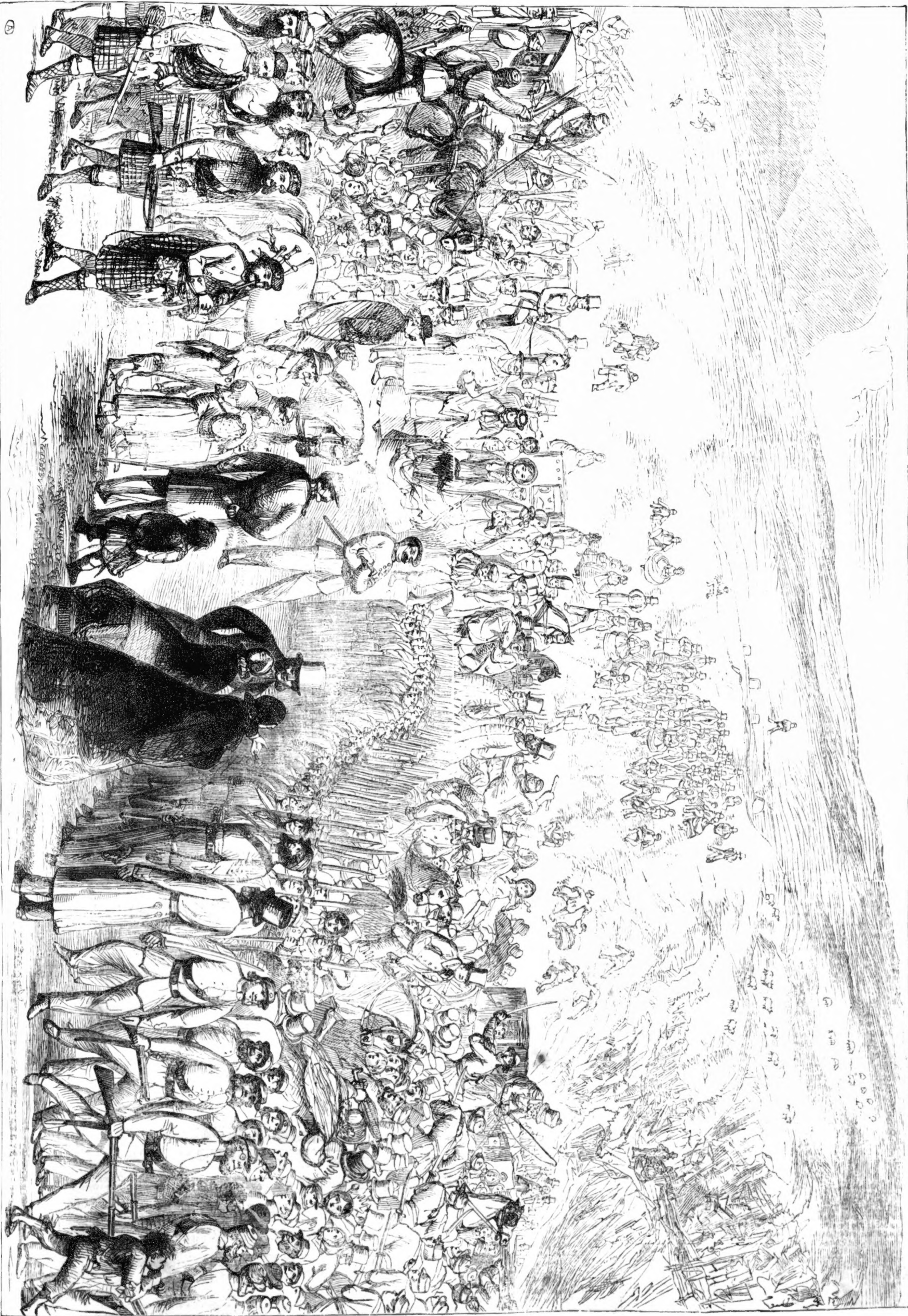
GAVAZZI IN FLORENCE.—A letter from Florence says:—"Gavazzi is in Florence, and has been for the last two or three months. Gavazzi possesses in a great degree those gifts of the tongue which are denied to most of the other innovators. The Government here are aware of it, and all his applications for a license to preach have been met with evasive answers. Were he allowed to open his lips he would certainly draw multitudes, and the priests would smart under his withering sarcasms; but the Government think they could not answer for the consequences, and they would in reality not be sorry to be rid of him on any terms. From Bologna, his native place, the ex-Barnabite friar has been turned out without ceremony. Here his presence is tolerated, but his mouth is padlocked."





ARRIVAL OF OVERLAND TRAVELLERS AT POINT DE GALLE, CEYLON.—DRAWN BY MISS CLAXTON.





INSPECTIO: OF THE EDINBURGH, H. L. VOLUNTEERS.—(FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH BY C. MOYER.)



## INSPECTION OF THE EDINBURGH VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

Mr. C. DOYLE has sent us a drawing of the late inspection of the Edinburgh Volunteers, by Major Nelson, sketched from his own humorous point of view. The weather was fine, and numbers of the fair daughters of Caledonia honoured the review with their presence, though the state of the ground from the recent thaw was anything but favourable to walking. The dampness of the grass, however, proved one thing in a most satisfactory manner, and that was, that Balmoral boots are of faultless make and fit in the north, and that brown hose, and red and blue striped and linsy wool petticoats are exceedingly attractive articles when worn by the ladies of Modern Athens.

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Good Friday occurring next week, advertisements for insertion in the ILLUSTRATED TIMES for April 7 cannot be received after Wednesday.

## ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1860.

## FRANCE AND THE PAPER DUTIES.

EVER since it was announced that the abolition of the paper duties formed part of the Budget, their general character became exposed to new criticism. They were almost universally unpopular before, and only defended as absolutely necessary to the revenue. When, however, the abolition was made an intrinsic portion of the new scheme of finance, it had to run all the risks of that scheme. Lukewarm admirers became enemies, and friends became lukewarm admirers only.

As old advocates for the change we are bound not to desert it hastily. Probably we owe it less to the justice than to the political necessities of the Government. But it is not the less a boon. Much nonsense has been written against it lately. We are told that it will only benefit inferior literature, and that, strangely, by the morning paper which was hoaxed by a bit of indecent Greek, and does not boast (we may therefore infer) among the "literary men" on its establishment a single one who can construe that language. Cheapness and dearth are confusing terms in matters literary. The *Cornhill* sells for a shilling, and the *New Monthly* for half-a-crown; Mr. Dickens writes in a twopenny paper, and some of the most ordinary men living in sixpenny ones. It is safer to let paper be as free as possible, and to make the public use its discretion about buying journals and books. Inferior prints will be no worse for being more legible; good ones will be no worse by becoming more cheap. Meanwhile, our excise, which may justly be called "hateful" (Dr. Johnson's old definition of the word), will have been abolished, and fairer play given to such publishers as Mr. Charles Knight. All that has been said, in fact, against this abolition is either a hash of the same old arguments brought against the stamp abolition, or is consistent only in the mouths of those who want the whole Budget destroyed—the good as well as bad parts, equally.

We cannot, therefore, admit any change in our view on this point of paper duty. But we do most earnestly reiterate the hope, expressed some weeks ago in our columns, that France will be brought to reason on the matter of rags. Up to this moment good paper can only be made from rags, and rags are a commodity which we might largely derive from France. This France knows, and forbids the export of them, or at least lays on a duty which has the same operation. And this is binding the people together in a friendly way! By abolishing the excise we do our best to cheapen paper—our best for both countries. But we must have paper, cheap or dear, and France denies us the material. She is quite willing that we should run risks, but will run none in the affair herself. All this country wants is fair play. If we can have free trade in the material, we do not fear competition in the manufacture. Not so our French friends. Imagining that we are better workmen, they want to "weight" us in the race by compelling us to work at a disadvantage. They wish artificially to support their own manufacturers at the expense of ours, whom they hope to beat in our own markets. This is a sad beginning in the new millennium of free trade and friendly intercourse. It argues a disregard of our feelings not unlike that of the Savoy business.

We trust that by the time this article sees the light Parliament will have signified its opinions on the subject; and that the question may have been adjourned till the results of further negotiation shall have been known. The Treaty and Budget altogether are not a brilliant bargain. We accept a great deal on trust, and only a considerable lapse of time can show us what our gain is to be. We violate several principles; we hamper ourselves with a political alliance exposing us to much obloquy in Europe. Only the most liberal treatment from the Power for whom, and with whom, we are acting can justify such doings. Are we, then, to sacrifice any interest to that Power—to allow it to get an advantage over us of so decided—so unblushingly plain—a kind as that under review? We trust not. Mr. Gladstone is ingenious enough. He has a logical, Scotch head, disciplined by theological exercises; and his powers are seen to the more advantage in the House that great debaters are very rare there at present. But,

Others besides Ulysses deep can be;  
Not the one wise man in the world is he,

as an ancient (whom we have no doubt, he knows well) observes. The sense and heart of the public are not with him if he is obstinate in this affair.

STRANGE REQUESTS.—The Marquis de la Coussaye, who lately died in his villa on the banks of the peaceful lake of Enghien, four miles from Paris, left a rather eccentric legacy. He bequeathed a sum of 50,000fr. to the commune of Enghien upon trust, to pay the interest thereof every year to some well-conducted girl for her marriage portion; but upon this condition, that the maiden to be annually elected shall, in the month of May, place a garland upon the testator's tomb with one hand while she receives her fortune with the other.—Agnes Hamilton, grocer, of Commercial-road, Glasgow, a miserly woman, died lately, at the age of eighty-one, leaving £23,000, saved from the profits of a small shop which she had rented for about forty years. She was never married, and studiously avoided parting with a single farthing. The large sum thus amassed she has bequeathed, in Annuities of £4, to destitute people of good moral character who are natives of, and have lived in, the Gorbals parish of Glasgow forty years, and who have attained the age of sixty-five. As the parish is small, very few qualified claimants exist, or can exist. She has left nothing to her relations.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY held a drawingroom on Saturday, and a levee on Wednesday.

HER MAJESTY and THE ROYAL FAMILY leave Buckingham Palace on Monday next for Windsor Castle, to pass the Easter holidays.

THE PRINCE CONSORT has sent a cheque for £250 to the committee for the Great Exhibition Memorial.

THE PRINCESS FREDERICK WILLIAM is likely to add another member to the Royal family of Prussia, we hear. There is a similar rumour as regards our own Royal family.

HER MAJESTY has nominated to the bishopric of Rochester the Ven. Joseph Cotton Wigram, M.A., Archdeacon of Winchester, and Rector of St. Mary's, Southampton.

THE FRENCH EMPEROR will order a *Te Deum* after Easter, in thanksgiving for the new territory just acquired.

THE DUCHESS OF PARMA and her youthful family are now in Zurich, at the same hotel in which the conferences took place for completing the Treaty of Villafranca.

MR. ROBERT BARCLAY read an interesting paper before the Society of Arts, on Wednesday, on the means of preventing the falsification of bankers' cheques, his scheme being the manufacture of ordinary writing paper with chemical properties, rendering common writing unalterable by time or fraud.

SERAFIN MANZANO, a Spaniard, who was arrested some time since for the murder of Anastasia Trowbridge, wife of a cottager at Ashcombe, has been tried and condemned to death.

ALL THE FRENCH PAPERS contain advertisements of the "*Ouvres Complètes de Lamartine*," edition personnelle, définitive, unique, in forty volumes. It is understood that the holders of the copyright of Lamartine's works, seeing the failure of the subscription lately made on his behalf, have given up their rights in favour of the author, who is now publishing this new edition himself.

LORD BROUGHAM has arrived at his villa at Cannes. He intends to remain in the south of France until after the Easter holidays.

THE PIEMONTESE GOVERNMENT is said to be buying up a large number of horses in the departments of the Indre and the Cher.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON has given orders to prepare a programme for a visit to all the manufacturing towns of France.

A LETTER FROM NICE announces that General Garibaldi is shortly expected in that town, of which he is a native. This great soldier will, by the annexation of the county of Nice to the French Empire, become a French citizen. We hope he likes it.

THE EARL OF SHREWSBURY intends making his formal entry upon the Alton Towers estates on the 13th of April. The occasion will be one of great display.

THE SOCIETY OF ARTS propose to do honour to the memory of the late Sir William Ross, R.A., by getting together, in their rooms in the Adelphi, a collection of his works, for exhibition to the public during the months of April and May. The Queen and the Prince Consort will contribute to the exhibition.

GOVERNMENT INSPECTORS were recently engaged surveying Cannock Chase, with a view to test its availability as a site for the proposed midland arsenal and depot for 10,000 troops.

THE FRENCH EMPEROR'S ARCHITECT will shortly proceed to Nice, we hear, for the purpose of selecting a site for the erection of a palace. It is thought not to be improbable that Nice will replace Biarritz as a sea-bathing place for the Emperor and Empress.

THE FIRST VOLUME of a German translation of "*Adam Bede*" has made its appearance at Berlin.

SIR CHARLES WOOD has directed the Madras Government to prepare sites for the reception of some quinine-yielding plants which are shortly to be introduced from South America.

A YOUNG MAN, a member of a rifle corps, shot himself through the heart last week. He is said to have been deranged by some love affair.

JOHN DAY, the celebrated jockey and horse-trainer, died on Wednesday week. Day was a very sober, steady man, and was much respected amongst the "patrons of the turf."

THE *Harannah*, 19, at Devonport, is to be appropriated to the use of a ragged school at Liverpool or some other outport.

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of the Royal General Theatrical Fund is appointed to take place on Monday next, at the Freemasons' Tavern, when the chair will be occupied by Tom Taylor, Esq.

AS MENDEL'S MENAGERIE was leaving Stamford, on Saturday, a van, containing an elephant, capsized while making an awkward turn, and, falling upon a horse belonging to the proprietors of the establishment, crushed it to death. The animal was valued at £60. The elephant was not hurt.

THE RACE between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge will be rowed to-day (Saturday), from Putney to Mortlake, and not from Mortlake to Putney, as was originally intended. The start will probably take place between eight and nine a.m.

A BENEVOLENT LADY has offered to defray the cost (amounting to £720) of four life-boats and their equipments, to be stationed at Newquay and St. Ives, in Cornwall; North Dundrum Bay, in Ireland; and Baskie, on the northern coast of Scotland.

ACCOUNTS FROM BORDEAUX state that the demand for wine is active, but that the prices asked are so high that it is difficult to execute the orders received.

THE ROYAL ACADEMICIANS met last week for the purpose of considering the great reform. The meeting could arrive at no result. Sir Charles Eastlake proposed an adjournment until next Monday. This proposal was adopted.

A DUEL was recently fought in Algeria between General Yusuf and an editor, in which the latter was severely wounded.

MR. HARRISON BARNHAM, a tax-collector at West Hartlepool, has absconded.

A BILL ordering free negroes to leave the State of Missouri, under pain of becoming slaves, passed the St. Louis Senate on the 7th instant. The same bill passed both Houses last Session, but failed to receive the signature of the Governor.

A VOLUNTEER in a rifle corps at Hereford having published a letter reflecting on an officer, a court-martial was held, and he was expelled the force.

THE MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has expressed strong disapproval of Mr. Wilson's financial scheme for improving the Indian revenue, by which a duty of ten per cent increase will be levied on imports.

A WRITER IN THE *Journal des Debats* gives the preference to the Armstrong over the Whitworth gun, but claims that the French gun is superior to both.

THE REV. JOSEPH GARNIER, D.C.L., at present Dean of Ripon, has been appointed to the deanery of Lincoln, vacant by the death of the Rev. Dr. J. G. Ward.

MR. J. H. TILLET, the Mayor of Norwich, has issued an address to his fellow-citizens, calling upon them to prevent a renewal of those scenes of electoral corruption which have disgraced the city in the eyes of the whole country.

THE REV. CANON STOWELL, of Manchester, says a local paper, has been presented by his congregation with the magnificent sum of £20,000. The only condition annexed to the gift was that it should not be applied to any public purpose, but Mr. Stowell declined to accept it subject to that stipulation.

DURING THE EASTER VACATION his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will pay a visit to his uncle the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, and also to his Royal Highness's grandmother, the Dowager Duchess of Saxe-Coburg.

THE LAUNCH OF THE *Frederick William*, screw, 86, took place successfully at Portsmouth dockyard on Saturday. The ceremony of naming the vessel was performed by the Countess of Bernstorff, wife of the Prussian Ambassador.

A SHIP-OF-THE-LINE, to be plated with steel, has been laid down in the dockyard of Cherbourg. She is to measure three hundred feet in length, with an iron spur thirty feet long, to be supplied with an engine of 1200-horse power, and to be called the *Napoleon I.*

WILD BOARS, it would seem, are almost as numerous in some parts of Picardy as rabbits elsewhere. At a great boar-hunt which took place at Ourcamp (Oise) a short time ago, and lasted several days, one hundred and four of these animals were killed.

TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINE of the magistrates of the county of Lancaster have signed a requisition to Lord Stanley asking him to allow himself to be put in nomination for the chairmanship of the Court of Annual Sessions, vacant by the death of the Right Hon. M. T. Baines. His Lordship has accepted the nomination.

A COMMISSIONERSHIP OF AUDIT has been placed at the disposal of Lord Palmerston by the death of Mr. Charles Ross; but, as it is thought possible to reduce the number of commissioners, the present vacancy will not be filled up.

THERE IS A CONVENT IN DUNDEE, with its cells, nuns, schools, and chapel, an offshoot of a larger one at Wellburn, Lochae.

A SERIES OF EXPERIMENTS WITH THE WHITWORTH GUN are to be carried out by order of the War Department, at the Government practice range, Shoeburyness. The trials are to be made under the superintendence of Colonel J. W. Mitchell, R.A., Commandant of the School of Gunnery, and the Ordnance Select Committee.

A SAD ACCIDENT OCCURRED at Berlin three days ago. In casting a group, in bronze, of animals, by M. Wolf, intended for the museum, the mould broke, and the liquid metal, bursting forth, scalded several persons. The roof of the building was set on fire, and the conflagration was not extinguished without difficulty.

A MEMORANDUM of "Reasons in Favour of a Bill to establish Artistic Copyright" has been prepared by the Council of the Society of Arts. This memorandum will be laid before her Majesty's Ministers by a numerous and influential deputation.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES it is rumoured that another attempt at opera in English, in competition with that of Miss L. Tyne and Mr. Harrison, may be made, either at Drury-lane or her Majesty's Theatre, in the course of the autumn.

ABOUT TWO THOUSAND POUNDS have been already obtained towards the Brunel Memorial.

A REPORT THAT GENERAL LANORICIÈRE had accepted service under the Pope, and was about to become Minister of War at Rome, and Commander-in-Chief of the Pontifical Forces, is contradicted by the *Pays*. It seems, however, that the General has gone to Rome.

ONE OF THE NEWLY-FORMED ARCHES for the Exeter and Yeovil line of railway in the York-road, Lambeth, fell in with a tremendous crash on Saturday. The labourers, about 200 in number, were at dinner at the time, fortunately.

THE LORDS OF THE ADMIRALTY have presented to the trustees of the British Museum an immense folio volume, splendidly bound, and decorated with all kinds of appropriate naval devices, containing all the original despatches relating to the chief victories of the British Navy.

A DEFICIT OF ABOUT £500,000 in the amount required for the Army Estimates of this year is announced. It is said to arise in consequence of a mistake made by the clerk whose duty it was to totalise the sums to be asked for by the War Minister in Committee.

DR. LIVINGSTONE has communicated to the Royal Society a series of valuable magnetic observations made recently in Africa.

THE DESTRUCTION OF OLD WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE has been commenced by the removal of the macadamised surface of the carriage-road on the western portion of the bridge.

MR. HERMAN MERIVALE, now permanent Under-Secretary for the Colonies, will be the new Under-Secretary for India, in succession to Sir George Clerk, appointed Governor of Bombay.

THE EARL OF LONGFORD expired on Tuesday night after a long illness.

MR. GLADSTONE is said to have withdrawn from the Carlton Club. Is this significant of the right hon. gentleman's final separation from the Conservative party?

A PHEASANT, hotly pursued by a hawk, dashed at a plate-glass window in Edinburgh, and such was the velocity the bird had then attained—probably fifty miles an hour—that it passed clean through the glass, falling dead instantly.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON, who has been seriously indisposed lately, is slowly recovering.

A SUIT involving the title to the whole city of San Francisco is to be commenced in the United States' Supreme Court at Washington next Monday. The claim is made under a Mexican grant to a Catholic priest, and the case rests upon the genuineness of the grant.

THE AUSTRIAN OFFICIAL JOURNAL contradicts a report that the confiscated estates of Count Balthiyan had been sold. On the contrary, the Emperor has restored them to the Balthiyan family, it seems.

OWEN LAWLEY, a private in the Engineers, was last week branded with the letter D and sentenced to imprisonment for bad conduct and desertion.

THE NEW BUILDINGS connected with the Armstrong gun-factory department at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, are so far completed as to admit of the employment of upwards of 2500 artisans and labourers, being treble the number employed at the Royal gun-factories at the corresponding period of last year.

A LETTER FROM COCHIN CHINA says that the conclusion of peace between France and Spain and that country was considered probable.

THOUGH a large number of the hired artificers and labourers not forming the permanent establishment of Woolwich Dockyard are ordered to be discharged, the works are actively carried on; and a new 91 screw line-of-battle ship, two 21-gun screw-corvettes, and a 6-gun boat are ordered for construction as soon as the necessary vacancies occur in the building-sheds.

AMONG THE CALAMITOUS RESULTS of the LATE STRIKE may be recorded the death (last week) of a bricklayer, aged forty-eight years, in Bethnal-green, in whom "ossification of the heart" was accelerated by drinking, fretting, and hard living, in consequence of the enforced interruption of employment.

THE POPE is said to have twelve million scudi, the pious offering of good Catholics, packed in boxes in the Vatican; so that, in case he should consider another *liegria* necessary, the money for his travelling expenses is abundantly provided.

GREENHEART TIMBER having been used for several years with advantage in private building establishments, its qualities are now to be tested in the naval dockyards. In consequence of its extreme durability, length, and size, 3500 loads, the produce only of the British colony of Guiana, have been contracted for.

A DIVIDEND SITTING of the BRITISH BANK was held at the Court of Bankruptcy on Tuesday. A further dividend of sixpence was declared, making 15s. in all.

EPISODE IN THE BONAPARTE FAMILY HISTORY.—A strange episode in the history of the Bonaparte family is described in the seventeenth volume of the "*History of the Consulate and the Empire*," by M. Thiers, just published. The book contains a letter from M. Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, "a French citizen residing at Baltimore, in the United States," to the effect that on the 24th of December, 1803, Jerome Bonaparte, then a naval officer in the service of the French Republic, was married to Miss Elizabeth Paterson, daughter of a citizen of the United States, by the Bishop of Baltimore. Though Jerome Bonaparte was under age, and married without waiting for his mother's consent, the note goes on to say his mother made no protest against the marriage, but, on the contrary, called M. Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, the issue of that marriage, "her dear son," and signed herself in a letter to him "his very affectionate mother." In 1805 the Emperor Napoleon I. demanded of the Pope a bull annulling that marriage, but this was refused. Before his death, however, Madame Letitia Bonaparte did protest against the marriage, and in the year 1805 the Emperor, in a decree approved by the Council of State, declared it null and void. Miss Paterson received a pension of 60,000fr. from the Emperor Napoleon I. till the Restoration. At the re-establishment of the empire under Napoleon III. the descendants of the marriage with Miss Paterson attempted to establish a right, and Prince Napoleon and the Princess Mathilde appealed to an Imperial family Council, the only competent tribunal, to forbid Jerome Paterson to attribute to himself, with the name of Bonaparte, a filiation which does not belong to him legally. The family Council maintained the right of the defendant to the name of Bonaparte, but without the right of availing himself of the advantages conferred by the 201st and 202nd articles of the *Code Napoleon*.

MILITARY MOVEMENTS IN FRANCE.—It is generally understood that the Marshal Duke of Magenta will command the camp of Chalons, which will this year be composed of three divisions of infantry and one of cavalry. It is said that the Imperial Guard will likewise be encamped at Chalons at least as long as the Emperor shall stay there.—All the officers on leave of absence, except those on sick leave and who belong to the regiments selected to form the camps of Chalons, Lunéville, and Helfaut, near St. Omer, have received orders to forthwith join their respective corps.—Several detachments of workmen selected from the divisions of the first corps d'armée have been ordered to join the military establishment at Vernon (Eure), to assist in the construction of waggon and other accessories required by an army on its entrance into campaign.—Admiral Paris, who commands the Brest fleet, has, we hear, been ordered to proceed immediately to Toulon with the ships under his command.

THE "GREAT TASMANIA."—We gave all the evidence in this case last week, but were obliged to go to press before the verdict reached us. It was as follows:—"That Thomas Beach died from natural causes, and that his death was accelerated by necessary removal to the workhouse." In the case of the other six they found that they "died of scurvy, brought on by bad food and exposure to cold on board ship." The jury further found "That the provisions supplied by the Government as stores for the use of the troops were bad, and unfit for human food, with the exception of the tea, pork, pickles, and rice. That there was an entire absence of proper disinfectants, and that the limejuice had lost its medicinal properties when put on board. That the officers who signed the 'General Inspection Report' are the culpable parties, so far as the quality of the stores is concerned. That the captain and officers of the ship are entirely free from blame, and that the ship's contract was satisfactorily fulfilled. That the military officers and surgeon did their best, under the circumstances in which they were placed, to promote the health of the men under their charge."—Two more of the soldiers who returned in the *Great Tasmania* died on Thursday week.



## THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

REPORTS of dissensions in the Cabinet were flying about on Tuesday and Wednesday, but they were not traceable to any authentic source. They probably arose in this way:—On Monday night Lord J. Russell indulged in rather stronger language than is usual with him on the conduct of the Emperor of the French. These expressions of his, it was thought, could not be approved of by certain members of the Cabinet. Mr. Milner Gibson (say) for example; and, if not approved of, would necessarily lead to a split. And by this sort of deduction the arrival at the fact that a split had occurred was, of course, very easy—"Dissensions are possible; dissensions are probable; they have occurred." Everybody can see how easily, during a walk down Pall-mall, a small seed of gossip might grow into a positively-asserted fact in this way. My own notion is that Lord John's language has been made to mean more than he intended, and more than his colleagues understood it to mean; and that the story of dissensions in the Cabinet is all imaginary. The fact that Lord John was not at sundry Cabinet meetings—or at least not at one Cabinet meeting—lately is accounted for in a very simple way. His Lordship had again a slight attack of influenza, that is all. (I have heard it whispered that Sir George Lewis is dissatisfied with the Reform Bill, and the ground of this report is his absence from Cabinet meetings; but here, again, the fact is very simple. Sir George is very unwell, and has been so for some time.)

The policy of the Conservatives is now fairly unmasked. The Reform Bill is not to be openly fought, but delayed and obstructed in its progress by every possible manoeuvre that party ingenuity can devise. They are not to divide, but to talk. Every opportunity which offers for talk will be eagerly seized, not only on the Reform question, but on every question. It is already more than probable that they will succeed in driving the second reading over the Easter holidays, and if they can do this a great point will be gained. Now, if the Liberal party were really anxious to have the bill, of course it could soon defeat this policy; but I question whether it is really in earnest. My own notion is that there are not twenty men in the House who, if we could read their hearts, would not be found to be secretly desirous to get rid of the bill altogether. And can we be surprised at this, when we know that if the bill pass a considerable number of the members will assuredly never come back again, and that very few can say that they are positively safe to be re-elected? We must not be surprised, therefore, if this Fabian policy of the Opposition should not be very resolutely opposed even by the professed advocates of the bill.

The debate on Tuesday night exposed some of the worst features of that "Government by party" which Mr. Disraeli and Lord John Russell so much admire. Mr. Churchward is the Government contractor for carrying the mails between England and France. On the 25th of February, 1859, he obtained an extension, on favourable terms, of his contract. The Conservative Ministry soon afterwards went out of office, and a Liberal Ministry was formed. The new Government, on the recommendation of a Committee of the House, grounded upon evidence that Mr. Churchward had corruptly used his influence at Dover to obtain an extension of the contract, refused to ratify it; and this was an attempt, by passing a resolution of the House, to force the Government, contrary to its own views, and in direct opposition to the recommendation of the Committee, to ratify the contract. Fortunately, many of the Conservative members kept away, and the Government got a majority of forty-five. The Conservative leader was not in the division, nor was Sir Bulwer Lytton: they were conspicuous by their absence.

There is an old story, so very old that it may perhaps have got new again—like a fashion—to many of our readers, of a French showman who, at the fête of St. Cloud, or elsewhere, exhibited a hybrid, between a cat and a rabbit, "to be seen alive." Crowds filled his *baraque*, and he addressed his audience to the effect that the animal had suddenly died that morning, but that the public might not be deceived as to its authenticity, he brought forward a living Mrs. Puss and a long-eared buck rabbit, and exhibited them in these words: "*Mais voici le père, et la mère!*" I had the recollection of this story hanging over me as I sauntered into Swallow-street, Piccadilly, the other day, to see an advertised hybrid "combining the species of the deer with those of the horse;" but there was here "no deception." In a small stable you see what at first appears to be a lightly-built bay pony; and, were it driven along the streets, it would most probably pass as such to a hasty observer. But, on close inspection, there are some remarkable points to observe about it, especially the nostrils, which are almost slits running parallel with the lines of the head. The ears are very short, and almost horny to the touch; and the legs and hoofs partake more of the light lever articulation of the deer than the horse. The latter, however, are not cloven; but there appears to have been a half-conceived intention of Nature to have made them so. The exhibitor states that the animal is the produce of a red deer and a wild pony from the New Forest. It has been in some measure broken in to harness; but its powers are described as somewhat like those of Bray's traction-engine, as described by Jem Myers—it goes rather sluggishly for a time, and then darts forward all at once like a firework. This, as regards both the hybrid and the engine, may, or may not, be the case, but there appears to be little doubt about the parentage.

To this exhibition well apply some remarks which I made upon another a few weeks back. Something more is wanted than the bare fact of going into a dingy stable in a back street to see an unadorned sight. The eye of the shilling-paying public requires to be fed as well as the mind. Those in the "show" line are often heard to say "that such-and-such an exhibition did nothing until so-and-so 'worked' it." Without completely Barmisising a fiction into a fact, there is something in this. Your American is the grandest exhibitor of wonders in the world. Had he brought this over, he would first have chosen an acknowledged "sight" room, in a crowded thoroughfare. He would have painted the room to represent a forest, with oaks and fern, and other accessories. He would have collected such objects of comparative anatomy as might assist to demonstrate the abnormal points of the hybrid; and a real deer and a real pony might have been added still further to compare with the object of exhibition. And, above all, he would have a well-informed, educated, "showman," capable of replying to all scientific and zoological questions asked. It may be said that, the fact being thus, these accessories do not assist it. But they do, and greatly. A pound of small mutton-chops on a willow-pattern plate are what they are; in a plated dish, with handles to remove—triumph of electro-snobbery and hotel extortion—they become "cutlets." Mr. Charles Kean playing King John between two screens, and before the diagram board of a literary and scientific institution, in private dress, could not fix his audience as he did amidst the glittering panoply at the Princess's Theatre; and even judges without their wigs and petticoats would lose half, at least, of their importance. And so with most things, except, perhaps, a small steak, which, simply sluffed from a coffee-room gridiron to a hot pewter plate, beats all that Sayer, Francatelli, or Gunter ever accomplished in the most artistic *viande* extant.

## THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul on Monday next resume their entertainment, with new songs and characters, at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, for a brief farewell season. This will be the last opportunity of hearing Mrs. Howard Paul in her "living photograph" of Mr. Sims Reeves, as that versatile actress is announced to appear as the duplicate of Signor Tambrlik in "Il mio tesoro."

The theatres in old days never produced any novelty in the fortnight preceding Christmas; but we have changed all that. Last week a "sketch" turning on the adventures of a gentleman of nervous temperament, who is mistaken for the now notorious "Benicia Boy," the American pugilist, and called "B. B.," was brought out at the OLYMPIC with sufficient success to entitle it to a temporary run, but lacking stamina or aptitude for peculiar talent to give it any lasting fame.

On Monday one of the worst farces ever seen, and yet, we regret to say, embodying to their degradation the talent of some of our best artists, was produced at the ANTHEM.

Next week will be Passion Week, when the usual undramatic entertainments take place in theatres. Mr. Adams, that perennial astronomer, is to the fore with his oratory; and there are monster concerts as usual. A novelty will be found at the HAYMARKET, where, from eight till ten, Miss Amy Sedgwick will give readings from Shakspeare, Byron, Hood, Tennyson (sic), and deliver an ode on the rifle corps movement, written for her by Mr. Tom Taylor.

Various novelties are in preparation for Easter Monday. The ANTHEM revives Mr. Planche's "Fair One with the Golden Locks;" the PRINCESS has a new burlesque by Mr. W. Brough, with Miss Louise Keeley in the principal character; the LYCEUM opens, under the management of Messrs. Falconer and W. Brough, with the burlesque of "The Forty Thieves" recently enacted by the Savage Club; the STRAND has a new extravaganza on "The Miller and his Men," written conjointly by Messrs. Talfourd and Byron; and the ST. JAMES'S burlesques the story of "Lucrezia Borgia."

Mr. Albert Smith closes his entertainment, "China," on Thursday next with the four hundredth representation, and on Easter Monday opens with a remodeled edition of Mont Blanc.

## MR. WILSON'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

IN making his statement before the Legislative Council at Calcutta, on the 18th ult., Mr. Wilson said the financial position, so far from being rectified, was even worse than he had expected. The statement of September, accepted in England with so much pleasure, had turned out a delusion, the deficit being under-estimated by £3,000,000. The expected receipts from new taxes (£775,000) had never been collected. The omission of the railway account involved an undue credit of £333,000. The home charges were under-estimated by £610,000, and there had been errors amounting to £900,000 in the military accounts of Madras and Bombay. The income of the year, therefore, amounted to £27,705,290, against charges to the extent of £11,770,008. These charges are reducible by the balance of railway receipts, £553,920, over working expenses and guaranteed interest; but when these sums have been deducted the total Indian deficit still amounts to £3,783,102. To this must be added the home expenditure, £5,507,020, raising the gross deficit of 1859-60 to £9,290,129. Mr. Wilson disliked prospective estimates, but he calculated the actual deficit of the ensuing year 1860-61, at £6,590,000, making the total cost of the mutinies £37,000,000, or, with interest, £40,000,000 sterling. It was essential, he said, for the Council to comprehend the magnitude of the danger involved in this statement, for until that was fully appreciated nothing adequate could be done. Such a deficit was wholly unknown in Indian history. The one with which Lord W. Bentinck had to deal amounted only to £14,000,000, spread over five years. Even the deficit which, in 1812, enabled Sir Robert Peel to introduce a new policy was only, after five years, £10,000,000 in all. Nor could the position be regarded altogether as exceptional, or produced solely by the frightful scenes the country had passed through. Deficit was the normal condition of Indian finance. Out of the twenty-six years since 1834-35, nineteen have been years of deficiency. Out of the fifty-nine years of the present century debt has been incurred in forty-four, while diminutions have taken place in only fifteen. The opium revenue was in a permanently precarious condition, and of late production had been limited for the sake of prices till competition became possible or imminent. Mr. Wilson, therefore, held that a great effort, involving extensive administrative reforms as well as great sacrifices, had become imperative.

Never, perhaps, had there been a nobler opportunity. India had been growing rich for years. The trade had increased from thirteen millions in 1833 to sixty millions in 1859. Sale of land for arrears of rent had almost disappeared. The rate of wages had been notoriously doubled within three years. It was the direct interest of all classes to re-establish by sacrifices a sympathy between the prosperity of the people and the credit of the State. At present India was the most lightly-taxed country in the world. Excluding the land tax, which was rather a rental than an impost, the population paid, head for head, only 1s. 4d., while that of Great Britain paid 42 3s. After quoting Munoo to prove that by Hindoo religious law the Sovereign had a right to very heavy taxes, Mr. Wilson passed on to his remedial plans.

He proposed, first, some alterations in the tariff. The measure of last year had partly succeeded, the Customs' revenue having increased from £2,073,000 to £3,430,000; but some of the duties were injuring trade. He gave details of the injury, and proposed to abolish the 20 per cent scale, except upon tobacco, and replace it by a uniform 10 per cent ad valorem duty on imports, liquors alone remaining liable to specific imposts. He should also remove the export duties at once from wool, hides, hemp, jute, flax, tea, and prints and maps; but, on the other hand, he wished to place a duty of 2s. a maund (£5 10s. a ton) on salt-petre, raise the duty on cotton twist to 10 per cent, and introduce a new and uniform system of valuations throughout India. The general revenue result of all these changes would be a gain of £350,000 a year.

Mr. Wilson then analysed the original License Bill, and declared that an income tax with exemptions could not be justified. He should, therefore, introduce two bills, one for a license tax, the other for an income tax. The first would fall on traders alone. Every artisan would be called on to pay one rupee a year, every small trader four rupees, and every large trader or professional man ten rupees. This tax would be arbitrary, and independent of income. He should, then, for the purposes of the income tax, divide society into two classes. All receiving from £20 to £50 a year would pay 2 per cent per annum; all above that, 4 per cent. No exemptions whatsoever would be allowed. He proceeded to notice the claims to exemption, and showed that the zemindars had been distinctly made liable at the Perpetual Settlement, and, as the nobility of the land, could not be exempted. The peasant zemindars of the North-west might, from the enormous taxes they already paid, be entitled to have their tax calculated on their real profits only, on the rough estimate of half the jumma. He condemned severely the conduct of Madras and Bombay, which, with heavy deficits and increasing expenditure, pleaded for sectional exemptions. The Government would allow simply none. Of the 4 per cent. levied, one would be locally expended on public works.

One more tax he should propose, being eight annas a seer (61. in the pound) on unmanufactured tobacco, but he had not quite decided on the mode of levying this tax; he might raise it on the land. Lastly, he pledged Government to large military reductions; hoped that the native army would never be recreated, but be superseded entirely by an armed constabulary under the control of the civil power; and refused peremptorily to recommend a British guarantee. He could say nothing as to the produce of his taxes. He had no data, "happily for India," but he believed he should at least restore a financial equilibrium. He should, in any case, not resort to the "discreditable expedient" of open loans. Later in the day Mr. Wilson promised a bill for a convertible State paper currency.

It is impossible to exaggerate the sensation this statement has produced. Not a voice has been raised in Calcutta except in hearty admiration for the first attempt to rehabilitate the finances. The press is unanimous. But the natives—the zemindars especially—are bitterly annoyed. They thought their exemption certain, whoever else was taxed. The 2 per cent. schedule, moreover, strikes millions; and, though it can be collected in Bengal, we have yet to learn its effect on the Mussulman proprietors of Madras. It falls, moreover, directly on the European troops, striking every man above the rank of a private.

PROTESTANTISM IN TURKEY.—A deputation from the Evangelical Alliance had an interview with Lord John Russell on Monday, for the purpose of soliciting his Lordship's interference in a case of gross persecution alleged to have been perpetrated in Turkey by a Greek Bishop upon a Protestant convert. Lord John Russell expressed his sympathy with the objects of the deputation, and promised to do what he could in the matter.

COTTON FROM JAMAICA.—Samples of cotton picked from stray trees of at least seven years' growth in the parishes of St. Andrew (mountains and level), St. Elizabeth, Manchester, and the city of Kingston and Spanish Town have been received in this country. The cottons have been submitted to Mr. Hazley, M.P., Mr. Clegg, and the Manchester Cotton Supply Association for valuation. There is very little difference in their estimates, the lowest of which are 6d., 7d., 8d., 9d., and 11d.

## Literature.

*Transformation; or, the Romance of Monte Beni.* By NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE. 3 vols. Smith, Elder, and Co.

"Miriam, Hilda, Kenyon, Donatello"—that is the heading of the first chapter of this book, and it comprises the persons of the drama, excluding supernumeraries. Italy and artist associations are the few words that comprise the scenery. Two loves and one murder constitute the action; and the possible functions of remorse in awakening the total capacities, moral and intellectual, of certain natures is the leading idea of the teller of this story in giving it to the world. That is all we can say in describing the book.

Mr. Hawthorne fears that in the seven years which have passed since he gave us "The Blithedale Romance" that sympathising critic and true gentle reader to whom he always used to address himself may have disappeared. Not so, we can assure him. The first novel we ever read was Mr. Hawthorne's, and he is still, to us, the most delightful of English and American storytellers—the one of whom we never tire, and in whom we find fresh meanings at every fresh reading. Not, then, because we are "unsympathising," but because we would take the privilege of unshaken fidelity of attachment and appreciation, growing year by year, we must sorrowfully say that Mr. Hawthorne is in this extremely beautiful romance "victimised" by that accursed three-volume notion which Messrs. Smith, Elder, and Co. were among the first to invade with success. His ink is, here and there, watered too much for the unloving, impatient public; and his book will fare harder on that account, we fear. To those who know how to sip the beauties of a good book it does not matter. Nor, indeed, are we quite sure that so subtle a theme as this of "Transformation" could have been worked out without some considerable portion (though not all) of the "filling-in" which we have here. Let us, however, carefully guard ourselves against being supposed for a moment to hint that there is any symptom of decay in the vigour and magic of Mr. Hawthorne's writing. We think "Transformation" is, in some respects, an actual advance upon his former works, and in no respect, save compression, a falling off. Let hasty readers bear in mind the cautionary counsel implied in Mr. Lowell's fine couplets:—

There is Hawthorne, with genius so shrinking and rare  
That you hardly at first see the strength that is there;

His strength is so tender, his wildness so meek,  
That a suitable parallel is one to seek;  
He's a John Bunyan-Pouque, a Puritan Tiesk.

The devout reader of the *Illustrated Times* will remember that, in reviewing "A Life for a Life," we discussed at some little length the propriety of constructing a story upon the absolute assumption that a "murderer" (of whatever class) is bound to give himself up to (what is called) justice. The question of the rightness of that assumption, which we think simply ridiculous, is powerfully raised in Mr. Hawthorne's new story. But another, and profounder, question is opened in more than one passage, and the book closes with a suggestion of it. Mr. Hawthorne approaches from the poetic side, as Mr. Buckle and the Positivists have done from the philosophic side, the subject of the relation of "Evil" to human growth. If, in the words of Tennyson,

Sin itself be found  
The cloudy porch of opening on the sun,

not in the Calvinistic or fatalistic sense, but in the way of natural sequence and inevitable law, why, what is this but the old story of Nominalist and Realist—between the

## DOCTOR SERAPINO.

You make but a paltry show of resistance;  
Universals have no real existence!

and his opponent at Salerno,

## DOCTOR CHERUBINO.

Your words are but 'idle and empty chatter;  
Ideas are eternally joined to matter!

Of course, it is nothing else but the old story. From the shape in which it meets us here, Hilda, the innocent, recoils; so does Donatello, the "guilty." On the other side stand Kenyon and Miriam. "Who is wise? Who hath understanding?" Shall we envy the farm of Praxiteles, so beautifully dealt with in this story by Mr. Hawthorne, with the universal Pan for his god, without a future and without a past, as without growth, and without either sin or sorrow? To him, indeed, "universals have no real existence." To him the thorns and thistles of the Curse (be it what it may) "make but a paltry show of resistance." Yet, on the whole, we think we prefer ears *not* pointed—the ringing grooves of change—hope, fear, remorse, and doubt, with possible gibbets here and hereafter, and wrangling doctors to make black white and white black—that is, if there *are* such things as white and black, which is not the case, everything in nature and life being shaded.

We trust no one who takes up "Transformation" will lay it down impatiently. And, when it is reprinted in a half-crown shape, we hope Mr. Hawthorne may see fit to condense it a little. In any case, we give his book a cordial welcome, and earnestly ask for "more."

*The Reliques of Father Prout.* Collected and arranged by Oliver Yorke, Esq. (Rev. Francis Mahony). Illustrated by Alfred Crowquill, Esq. (D. MacLise, R.A.). New Edition, revised and largely augmented. London: H. G. Bohn.

It is like going back to flint implements in the Drift, or something more ancient still, to take up these *Fraseriana*, thrown off in the days when journalism, heavenly maid! was young. How full they are of bold personality of the "genial" order—a sort of thing not now admitted in magazine, and scarcely to be wished for. How very clever! How very rapid when the first effervescence is over! How tedious the convivialism becomes when you have 600 mortal pages of it bound together! Half-a-dozen of those wonderful polyglot parodies is enough for any taste, and, if it were not for the translations from Béranger, we could not "stand" the rest of the book. Father Prout is, we think, ill-advised in this indiscriminate republication. A fourth of the quantity, with the omission of all the antediluvian personalities, would make a nice volume for readers who are fond of the literature of desperate sallies of gaiety and *tour de force* of imitation. Father Prout is *facile princeps* in his own order; and, if we cannot give him credit for that "depth of remark" and "pathos of sentiment" which he indirectly claims in his preface, he is a fine fellow to spend the evening with, and would have genius, if he were not eaten up with cleverness.

LORD CLYDE AND OUR INDIAN ARMY.—According to the latest accounts from India, Lord Clyde has yielded to the pressure of the Governor-General's wishes, and has consented to remain in India for another year. The result will be a general though partial change in the Indian commands. As Sir Hugh Rose retains the Bombay command, Sir William Mansfield intends, it is understood, to proceed to Bombay, and to remain there until the Presidency shall be transferred to him on Lord Clyde's departure for England. Colonel Pakenham, Adjutant-General of the Queen's Forces in India, is obliged to abandon his post in consequence of indisposition, or, rather, of a painful disease which has attacked his knee-joint. He left Simla on Feb. 5, in order to take a passage to England. Colonel Congreve has assumed the charge of Colonel Pakenham's duties.

THE PRIZE-FIGHT FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP.—In consequence of the activity displayed by the police authorities in interrupting prize-fights lately, and their contemplated interference in the projected contest between Sayers and Heenan on the 16th proximo, the backers of the men have arranged to cancel the articles of agreement, so far as relates to the appointed day of fighting, with the intention of bringing off the "event" at an earlier date; the place and time of meeting to be confided to the profession and a limited number of amateurs the evening previous to the day fixed for the contest. About a hundred and fifty sporting men arrived from the United States by a steamer to witness this fight. Amongst them were Morrissey, an American pugilist, and conqueror of Heenan in the early part of the "thirties," and J. J. Corbett. Sayers is the favourite—the betting being last week 7 to 1. We may add here that the tavern business of New England and Benjamin Caunt, pugilist and politician, have been released there.





PETER BOTTE MOUNTAIN, ISLAND OF THE MAURITIUS.



### THE PETER BOTTE MOUNTAIN.

IN the island of Mauritius, also called the Isle de France, is a mountain which, from its eccentric shape, has gained much notoriety. Imagine a pinnacle almost perfectly conical in form, on the point of which chance, or possibly the deluge, has placed a huge granite boulder that has hitherto defied everything to disturb it from its perilous position. Our Illustration will best explain this wonderful freak of Nature.

The Peter Botte Mountain rises to an altitude of about 3000 feet above the level of the sea. The spheroid by which it is crowned is fifty feet in height, and the base on which it rests is so narrow that, seen from a distance, it appears balanced on a point as sharp as a needle. This mountain takes its name from the first man who attempted to scale its perpendicular sides, and that man was Sir Peter Botte, who paid with his life the penalty of his audacity, for at the very moment he was about to place his foot on the summit he made a false step and was dashed to pieces in the ravine below. Since that day the rock bears, by way of epitaph, the name of the intrepid traveller who there met his death. This accident for a lengthened period discouraged any further attempts to ascend it, and it was not till some considerable time after that a Captain Lloyd succeeded in the venturesome task. Since then the ascent has been attempted repeatedly, not only by officers from almost every ship of war and regiment that has been stationed at Mauritius, but by numerous civilians residing on the island. Still, such has been the difficulties they have had to encounter that they have uniformly returned without success, except in some few instances. The following is an account of one of the successful ascents:—

"On our right was 'The Shoulder,' which we knew must first be gained before we could ascend 'The Neck,' and immediately above us rose the spiry pinnacle, surmounted by its ponderous head of solid rock. Our path lay along a narrow ridge of rocks, with a steep precipice on each side, up to the base of two perpendicular rocks of about forty feet in height. After various suggestions, we hit upon a plan of resting the lower end of a flagstaff we had with us on a ledge about eighteen inches broad, situated near the base of these rocks, placing the other end against the rocks themselves. Up this we climbed, and found, when we had reached the upper end, that the rocks presented certain unevennesses, invisible from below, which offered a slight hold for the hands in safety. The least slip on either side must have precipitated us to a distance of 1800 or 2000 feet.

"Having all reached 'The Neck' in safety, one of us, who was a good leadman, proceeded to heave a plummet of lead attached to a fishing-line over a cleft on one side of the head. To achieve this the person attempting it was obliged to lean over the extreme edge of the precipice; and to enable him to stand firmly we made a rope fast to his leg, to which we all held on stoutly. At the fourth swing he succeeded in pitching it right over the cleft, the plummet, with the end of the line, coming down on the opposite side. Having attached a stronger rope to this, we pulled it over, and by this means we now ascended, one by one, to the summit of this long-inaccessible mountain; and well were we repaid for our exertions.

"From that height we saw stretched out a most magnificent panorama of the whole island, perhaps presenting more varied scenery than any spot in the whole world. On one side of us lay the deep ravines of the grand river, with its magnificent waterfalls, whose diamond brightness contrasted beautifully with the emerald green of the dense forests with which its banks were skirted. On the other lay the fertile district of Pamplemousses, with its graceful canefields, dotted here and there with planters' houses and factories, while in front was the grand range of rugged mountains of the loviest hues which surround Port Louis, and whose irregular, abrupt outlines conjoined themselves to the mind's eye into a hundred fantastic shapes. It was an exhilarating moment, and the three hearty cheers which announced the planting of the union-jack resounded from hill to crag until they were re-echoed by the crowds assembled in the plains below, who hailed the accomplishment of the feat with a tumultuous burst of applause."

In this exploit all the Mauritians were interested. The progress of the party was narrowly watched from all parts of the island, and congratulations for their safe return were offered on every side.

### THE WHALEHEADED STORK; OR, BALCENICEPS REX.

Two living specimens of this celebrated bird of the White Nile have just been added to the collection of the Royal Zoological Society, through the exertions of Mr. Petherick, her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Chartoum. It was first made known to naturalists, in 1851, by the Abyssinian traveller, Mansfield Parkyns, and was named by Mr. Gould *balcenciceps rex*. The whalehead, as its name imports, is a large stork, provided with an enormous pelican-like bill, and further resembling the latter bird in its capacity for devouring fish. The *balcenciceps* inhabits the reedy marshes on the banks of the White Nile, beyond the fourth



EGYPTIAN STORK RECENTLY ADDED TO THE GARDENS OF THE ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

degree of north latitude, where it was obtained by Mr. Petherick during his arduous explorations into those regions, of which he has lately given an account before the Royal Geographical Society.

M. Temminck, in his *planches colorées*, gives us a specimen of a somewhat kindred bird found generally on the banks of the Nile, and termed by him the African marabout. The bill is regularly conical; the lines are straight, and the nostrils oblong. There is a greenish tinge on the black of the back, with the exception of the larger wing-coverts and secondaries, which are of a decided black, edged more or less broadly and distinctly, according to the age of the individual, with pure white bands. In the young birds these last distinctions are imperceptible. When the bird is at rest the pouch, as well as the neck, are of a pale flesh colour; but when it is excited they acquire a redder tinge. The natural colour of the legs is dusky black; but in living birds these limbs are generally whitened by the dust shaken out of the plumage.

It will be seen from this statement of M. Temminck that the African marabout greatly resembles the *balcenciceps rex* in form and appearance, though the latter is stated only to have been made known to naturalists

in 1851. Be this as it may, this is the first instance, of the whale-headed stork being introduced into Europe in a living state. The Zoological Society specimens are suffering from the rough usage they met with during the bad passage between Alexandria and Southampton; but there is every prospect of their speedy recovery.

### FASHIONS FOR APRIL.

IN spite of a few bright days of sunshine, which promised to herald the advent of spring, the continuance of chilly, easterly winds gives warning of the risk of incautiously laying aside warm cloaks and shawls. Consequently, in outdoor dress velvet pelisses and paletôts are still the favourite wraps for the *demi-saison*. Many are made of black silk, and trimmed with ruches of the same. In Paris, however, it is much the fashion to employ violet or maroon for the ruches when the paletôt or pelisse is of black silk; the sleeves very wide, and usually lined with white or coloured silk. The pelerine is always pointed at the back, the point descending as low as the waist.

Bonnets have already assumed an aspect perfectly springlike. They are for the most part made of crape and velours épinglé—the former white, and the latter of some bright hue. We may mention a very elegant bonnet, made of white crape and blue velvet, having on one side a blue ostrich feather. Another has been made of mauve-coloured crape and velvet, with a bird of paradise on one side.

For an evening headdress the coiffure Italien, like that shown in our Illustration (Fig. 4), is at present extremely fashionable in Paris. Sometimes the plaque of black velvet is brought a little over the front of the head in a point, and the velvet is edged with jet or gold; at each side bouquets of shaded roses. Nets, worn at the back of the head, still continue in favour. Those of gold, silver, or pearls are most suitable for full dress; but others, intended for a plainer style of costume, are frequently made of very narrow chenille or velvet.

For ball-dresses lace tunics are considered very recherché; and over-skirts of coloured moire antique tunics of black lace have a very rich effect. The newest dresses of the season are all made excessively full in the skirts. In spite of all that is said about the abandonment of crinoline there seems to be at present no disposition to discard it among the élite of Parisian Fashion.

### THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Fig. 1. *Ball-dress*.—The lower robe, of white tulle, has four double flounces, forming bouillons, and confined at regular intervals by bands of narrow Pompadour ribbon. The upper robe, likewise of white tulle, is gathered up in festoons by bands of Pompadour ribbon, fixed at the ends by bouquets of millefleurs. The corsage and sleeves are trimmed with the same ribbons and flowers. The headdress consists of a circular wreath of millefleurs.

Fig. 2. *Ball-dress*.—Robe of white tulle, with a tablier front, formed of a series of narrow flounces, edged with cerise-coloured ribbon and gold. The back part of the skirt has six flounces of broader width than those on the tablier, and also edged with cerise ribbon. The upper jupe is of white crape, gathered up at each side by bands of cerise ribbon figured with gold. The corsage is pointed in front of the waist, and has a berthe formed of three very narrow frills edged like those on the skirt. In front of the corsage a large bouquet of damask roses is fastened by a bow of cerise and gold ribbon. Sleeves formed of puffs of tulle, with bows and long ends of cerise ribbon covered with blonde. Headdress a wreath of damask roses with gold foliage.

Fig. 3. *Dinner and Full Evening Dress*.—Robe of very rich mauve-coloured moire antique, figured with bouquets in black and white. The side trimmings are formed of satin ribbon of the colour of the dress. This ribbon is disposed in lozenges, gathered in at the points by rosettes of ribbon. The lower ones are finished by ends with silver fringe. The berthe and the sleeves are also trimmed with silver fringe, and under the silk sleeves there are puffs of white tulle. The coiffure is a silver net, worn at the back of the head, and trimmed with silver tassels. On the front of the head a wreath of flowers.

Fig. 4. *Dinner and Full Evening Dress*.—Robe of very light green silk. The skirt is trimmed with two broad bands of velvet of a darker hue than the silk, and these bands of velvet are edged at each side by a ruche. Coiffure Italien, consisting of a square plaque of black velvet, edged with lace, and worn quite at the back of the head. Under the plaque are bouffants of white tulle illusion, and long lappets of the same flow over the shoulders. At each side of the coiffure bouquets of scarlet geranium.

AN IMPORTANT SALE OF MODERN PAINTINGS was commenced on Saturday last at Messrs. Christie and Manson's. It comprised the names of Turner, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Webster, Philip, Etty, Frith, Hook, Poole, Catermole, Egg, Rosa Bonheur, Sant, Creswick, Cooper, Ansdell, Linnell, sen., Callcott, Macleise, Lee, and other eminent artists. Some of the pictures realised large prices.





# OPERA AND CONCERTS.

HER Majesty's Theatre is to open, on the 10th of April, with "Martha." The part of Martha will be taken by Mlle. Titiens, that of Lionel by Giuglini. The character of Plunkett, the gentleman who likes a drop of good beer, will be sustained by Signor Everardi (which is the Italian for Monsieur Everard); and Mlle. Vaneri (whose English name is unknown to us) will have the honour of appearing as Nancy, one of the most charming impersonations of Madame Nantier-Didé, who has, in fact, spoiled the part for every one else. On Thursday, the 12th, Madame Borghi-Mamo will make her debut before an English audience in "La Favorita," with Giuglini as Fernando, and Everardi as Alphonso; and on Saturday Mlle. Titiens and Madame Borghi-Mamo will appear together in the "Travatore"—the former, we need hardly say, as Leonora, the latter as Azucena; with the excellent and never-failing Giuglini as Manrico, but with Aldighieri as the Conte di Luna. There are many better Counts of the Moon than Signor Aldighieri; but the three other parts in Verdi's much-abused, oft-repeated, and very admirable opera will be filled to perfection.

Mongini, the Stentor of tenors, will not be allowed to sing until the subscribers have become a little accustomed to the noise inseparable from grand operatic performances. It is thought the public ear will be ready for him by the end of April, but he will astonish it whenever he appears, and—who knows?—if he has been studying under an intelligent master, and has lost some of his superfluous energy, he will, perhaps, achieve a genuine artistic success.

Madlle. Albani returns to us as Arsace in Rossini's "Sémiramide," the character in which she made herself known thirteen years ago at the Royal Italian Opera, and in which, as fate and bad management would have it, she has never appeared since that time. Every one remembers how immense Madlle. Albani's success was at Covent Garden. Can any one explain why she was allowed to leave that establishment, where—with all due respect to the great artistic qualities of Madame Nantier, be it said—she has never been satisfactorily replaced? It will be most interesting to hear the music of the Assyrian Queen sung by Madlle. Titiens, who will undertake it for the first time. Everardi, of whose abilities the management evidently entertain the highest opinion, will be the Assur.

The other "first ladies" at her Majesty's Theatre will be Madlle. Lotti, from the Royal Italian Opera, and Madlle. Brunetti, to us unknown. Madlle. Brunetti will make her first appearance as Gilda, in "Rigoletto," the most difficult part with which a debutante in England can be intrusted, on account of the ineffaceable impression left by Madame Bosio, the most perfect Gilda imaginable.

Madame Cabel is said to be engaged, but we are not told in what opera she will sing. A contemporary, however, hints at the production of a new Italian version of "Dinorah," of which Madame Cabel "created" the chief part at the Opéra Comique. Madlle. Piccolomini, too, will appear in several of her favourite characters.

Several novelties are promised, among which we may mention Italian versions of "Oberon" (with recitatives by Mr. Benedict, who was a pupil of Weber), "Der Freischütz," and "Fidelio." Nothing is said about the orchestra, except that Arditi will conduct, and that two violinists, Molique and Blagrove, have been engaged.

Mr. Gye's programme, at the moment of our writing, has not been issued; but he will have a most admirable company if, in addition to that of last year—minus Madlle. Lotti, plus Madame Miolan-Carvalho and Madame Czillag—he has succeeded in engaging an Italian prima donna of first-rate excellence, such as Madame La Grus, formerly of Paris and late of St. Petersburg, is said to be.

The last Monday Popular Concert was composed of instrumental pieces by Beethoven, and of English songs from Mr. William Chappell's admirable "Popular Music of the Olden Time." The mixture was somewhat novel, but, as each element was in itself thoroughly good, the entertainment was completely successful; indeed, no concert of the Monday popular series was ever listened to with more attention or received more decided marks of approbation than that of Monday night. The first part commenced with the grand septet in E flat major, which, with the exception of some of the pianoforte sonatas, is the most generally popular of all Beethoven's works, and which Beethoven himself rearranged as a trio for pianoforte, clarinet, and violoncello, and as a quintet for two violins, two violas, and violoncello. The original work is for the violin, viola, clarinet, horn, bassoon, violoncello, and double bass, and was executed on Monday night by Messrs. Becker, Doyle, Lazarus, Harper, Chisolm, Severn, and Piatti.

The great piece of the evening was the sonata in E major for pianoforte alone, one of Beethoven's latest and most difficult works, and which—rarely performed at all—was given for the first time at the Monday Popular Concerts. A lady to whose attractions, both intellectual and personal, Beethoven was by no means insensible, while admiring the depth and grandeur of his later works, reproached him (so runs the story) with being unable to write anything expressive of tender or passionate love. The great composer was piqued at this criticism from one he so highly esteemed, and replied to it by the sonata in A major, which is full of tenderness. Starting from this tolerably well-authenticated legend, which imparts an interest to the work just mentioned, the author of the excellent annotated programmes issued by the directors of the Monday Popular Concerts connects every one of the late sonatas of Beethoven in some measure with the sentiment that generated the first—each one, after the first, being the necessary consequence of its immediate predecessor. There is not one of Beethoven's late pianoforte sonatas which exceeds in beauty that in E major; nevertheless, its performance on Monday evening was looked upon in the light of an experiment. We have only to add that it was performed in the most masterly style by Miss Arabella Goddard, and that it produced a deep impression.

Herr Becker, the violinist, plays with grace, but not with power. He is deficient in expression as compared with Wieniawski, and positively weak by the side of Joachim; but in delicate, tender music he is heard to great advantage, and he gave Beethoven's romance in G major with exquisite taste, and with so much success as to obtain an encore, when he substituted another romance by the same composer, the one in F major.

The vocalists were Miss Fanny Rowland, who sang "The Oak and the Ash," and "At her Cottage Door;" and Mr. Tennant, who sang "Sally in our Alley" and "Dear Kitty."

The concert terminated with the Kreutzer sonata, which appears to be the most popular of all Beethoven's chamber compositions, because, as it appears to us, each movement possesses a clear, well-defined, singable melody, which would delight the hearer if executed simply on the violin. The sonata was played by Miss Arabella Goddard and Herr Becker less well than, at Miss Goddard's last concert, by that lady and Joachim; but very admirably, nevertheless. Contrary to all precedent, not half-a-dozen persons left the room before the conclusion of this delightful work, which, as we have said, was the last piece in the programme.

After Easter the St. James's Hall will for some time be in the possession of concert-givers every night.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—An addition has been made to the National Gallery—the choice collection of pictures formed by M. Edmund Beaumont at Paris having been purchased for the sum of £9200. For the accommodation of the new pictures, a screen is to be placed in the west room of the gallery in Trafalgar-square low enough not to obstruct the distant view of large pictures on the walls, but affording sufficient superficial extent to accommodate some of the smaller works already in the gallery. At present the portion of the Beaumont collection which is exhibited to public view consists of the following and other pictures:—"The Death of the Virgin," by Martin Schöner; an "Allegory of Venus, Cupid, and Time," by Angelo Bronzino, probably the artist's masterpiece; "The Virgin and Child," St. Catherine, and St. John the Baptist," by Titian, formerly in the library of the Church of the Escorial, and subsequently in the Coeswold collection; two half figures, life size, called "Daphnis" and "Chloe," by Paris Bordone; a Madonna resting, by Hans van der Weyden the younger; a "Virgin and Child," by Cima da Conegliano, a small but characteristic specimen; "The Virgin and Child with Saints," half figures, by Francia; a portrait of Ariosto, probably that mentioned by Ridolfi, by Titian, &c.

# THE FRENCH GALLERY.

Do the French artists paint expressly for the French Exhibition in Pall-mall, or does the proprietor of the gallery select works from a "ready-made" stock? This is a question which, probably, does not interest the public, but which we should like to see answered, because a few of the most celebrated of Mr. Gambart's exhibitors have either not done themselves justice, or have not had justice done to them, this year. The success of Madlle. Rosa Bonheur, which dates from the foundation of the Gallery, and that of M. Meissonier, which has been scarcely less great though more recently obtained, should have had the obligatory effect upon them ascribed in a *mot* made celebrated by Chateaubriand to noblesse—"Artistic nobility should also 'oblige' to the performance of great things; or, at all events, to the avoidance of that which is not worthy of the artist's reputation." For this reason Madlle. Rosa Bonheur ought not to have sent her "Mare and Foal" or her "Fawns in a Cover," which, excellent as they would be for an artist of only ordinary reputation, are not sufficiently excellent for *her*. Undoubtedly they possess in a remarkable degree the merit of naturalness (especially the "Fawns in a Cover"), but they are sketchy and unfinished, and, at the same time, are not offered to us as sketches, but as pictures bearing an enormous pecuniary value. Meissonier's "Rembrandt in his Studio," and again "Vandermeulen in his Studio," are still less creditable to him than the "Fawns" and the "Mare and Foal" are to Madlle. Rosa Bonheur. For these also enormous prices are asked; and we notice the fact—which does not, at first sight, appear to belong to the domain of criticism—because it indicates a disposition on the part of our Gallic friends to make money out of our rich but injudicious amateurs at any risk. The incomplete and evidently hurried execution in Meissonier's two pictures are the more extraordinary as coming from an artist whose power of finishing his work to the last point has gained for him quite as much celebrity as his remarkable genius for colouring. We can fancy French painters, who know little about this country, saying to one another that "anything will do for England;" but those foreign artists who enjoy a high reputation in England owe it to their having exhibited among us in the first instance pictures of great excellence, and as soon as they cease to send us their best works this reputation will naturally decline.

Two important works, one by the Belgian artist Gallait—who is chiefly known in England through his picture of the decapitated Flemish patriots Egmont and Horn, and the other by Gérôme, the painter of the "Duel after the Masquerade"—have not yet arrived. They are said to be on their way, however, and are entitled "The Gladiators" (Gérôme) and "Art and Liberty" (Gallait). Probably they have been forwarded by the *petite* instead of by the *grande vitesse* train of the Northern Railway of France. Another disappointment has been the non-arrival of a picture by Diaz, who is scarcely known in England, but who is, nevertheless, the greatest colourist the modern French school has produced, with the single exception, perhaps, of Eugène Delacroix. Delacroix, however, is also a great dramatic painter, whereas Diaz is a colourist, and can hardly be called anything else.

There is nothing in the present collection that can be compared, for general interest or for absolute merit, to three or four pictures exhibited at the French Gallery in former years—such as Rosa Bonheur's "Horse Fair," Ary Scheffer's "Francesca di Rimini," and Gérôme's "Duel after the Masquerade." But the rooms contain a large number of paintings of more than average excellence (taking the works of the average British painter as the standard), and the French Gallery is better worth a visit than any of the English galleries at present open in London. Every one entering it will certainly be charmed by the pictures of infant life contributed by Edouard Frère, who ought to be named Edouard Père, with such a fond paternal eye does he look upon the *naïveté*, the prettiness, and even the weakness of children. We believe M. Frère to be the first man, whether artist or writer, who has given himself up seriously and earnestly to the study of babies. However, the great question is not what a man works at, but what he learns from his work, or rather what his work enables him to teach the rest of the world; and M. Frère, thanks to his intelligent observation of the manners and gestures of very young children, can show us how they act and talk, and we may almost add, think, under every variety of circumstances. A great thing, some of our readers will perhaps exclaim, to know the opinion of a child of four! Let them consider, then, how interesting they would find a series of "Sketches of Babies," by Mr. Charles Dickens, and what Mr. Dickens might do on this subject in a few magazine articles. M. Edouard Frère has already done in a dozen pictures. This year M. Frère's babies are rather large; but children *will* grow. Our "Lounger" has already called attention to his "Little Drummer," his "Flageolet Lesson," and his "Boys Sliding," and has explained that M. Frère's boys are not actually sliding because French boys cannot slide.

Three of the largest pictures in the room—each of which has found its admirers—are Dabufe's "Departure of the Conscript and Return of the Soldier," Müller's "Henry VIII., Thomas More, and Bishop Fisher at Greenwich," and a "Landscape with Cattle," by M. Troyon. We dismiss M. Dabufe's work as utterly bad. There is nothing either real or poetical, but only that which is thoroughly conventional, in his conscript, and his soldier is indeed the same conscript in another costume. The French conscript is usually a peasant, and it is quite true, as M. Dabufe shows us, that he objects to military service. A French artist has painted a picture of the outside of a French mairie on the day the "numbers" are drawn. Those who have drawn "des mauvais numéros," as the expression is, are coming out with a braggadocio air, beneath which they with difficulty conceal their despair; the lucky ones are shouting with joy. Then all go to the winery—those who have favoured to celebrate their good fortune, those whose fate has not favoured to drown their grief. No one, however, looks like the conscript in M. Dabufe's picture. M. Müller's "Henry VIII., &c.," is not by any means worthy of the painter of the "Victims of the Reign of Terror" in the Gallery of the Luxembourg, and of which a reduction (unless our memory deceives us) was exhibited last year, or the year before, in London at this same "French Gallery." M. Troyon in France has as much reputation as an animal painter, or even more, than Rosa Bonheur herself, whom a great many French critics have seriously accused of being "too real," by which we suppose they mean too natural. The same objection cannot be urged quite so strongly against M. Troyon, who is, nevertheless, a very truthful and forcible painter. His composition, too, is always excellent, but we fancy that, from a wish to appear vigorous, he has cultivated a style of execution which is sufficiently broad but somewhat slovenly.

M. Bréton, the painter of "The Benediction of the Harvest" in the Luxembourg Gallery, and M. Brion, who may be remembered by his "Raft on the Rhine," exhibited in London last year, are represented in the present collection by "The Reapers" and "A Funeral on the Rhine." MM. Chaplin and Pissarro send toilet pictures, of which the subjects are only fit for coloured lithographs, such as are exhibited in the boulevards and in the Strand to the admiration of badauds and gents.

Mr. Gambart has never imported anything by M. Courbet—"Courbet le réaliste" as he calls himself. We do not admire M. Courbet so much as M. Champfleury, his great literary celebrator; but his paintings ought to be seen in England. They are full of power, exceedingly truthful, and wonderfully ugly, not with the grotesque ugliness of Pre-Raphaelitism, but with the plain, common ugliness of unfortunate human nature taken at its worst. However, there is a great deal to be said about M. Courbet, and we should like to see what people would say about him in Pall-mall.

PREVOT-PAROLE TRIUMPHANT.—M. Prevot-Pardol, in the *Journal des Débats*, says of the annexation:—"For our part, we rejoice not alone at this increase of our territory and this happy rectification of our frontier, but at the evident disposition of Europe to place no obstacle in its way. Our country could not receive a stronger proof of the high value that is formed of her power, of the lustre which the late war has shed on her arms, and of the price which is set on her friendship."

# WRECKS ON THE BRITISH COAST IN 1859.

THE report on this subject informs us that the number of ships and lives lost on the coasts during the past year is greatly in excess of the numbers recorded as lost in any previous year. There are 1116 casualties against 1170 in 1858, and 1645 lives lost against 310. This increase is chiefly attributable to the violent gales of October 25 and 26, and of October 31 and November 1 and 2. In the former gale there were 133 total wrecks, and 90 casualties resulting in serious damage, and 798 lives were lost. This number, however, includes the loss of 446 lives in the *Royal Charter*. In the latter gale there were 27 total wrecks, and 27 casualties resulting in partial damage, and there was a loss of 51 lives. Besides this, 424 lives were lost at once in the *Pomona*, on the 28th of April, and 56 in the *Blerie Castle* on or about the 20th of December. While the number of casualties to British ships trading to, from, or between places in the United Kingdom has greatly increased—viz., from 927 in 1858 to 1187 in 1859, the casualties to foreign ships similarly employed have decreased from 200 to 188. From a table classifying the casualties according to the cargoes of the ships, it appears that the ships which have suffered most are, as follows, viz.:—Laden colliers, 566 in 1859 against 377 in 1858; light colliers, 71 against 41; ore ships, 130 against 101; and ships with passengers and a general cargo, 42 against 14. From a table showing the ages of the ships it appears that the greatest number of casualties have happened to ships between 14 and 20 years old, next between 20 and 30, and then to comparatively new ships, or ships between 3 and 7 years of age. It also appears that 64 were upwards of 50 years old, 3 of this number being between 80 and 90, 1 between 90 and 100, and 1 above 100 years old.

The number of wrecks on some portions of the coast are greater than those on others. The wrecks and casualties on the east coast are 621, against 514 in 1858; on the south coast, 130 against 89; and on the west coast, 466 against 304. There is a decrease in the number on the Irish coast—namely, 99 against 168 in 1858; and also on the Scilly Islands—namely, from 14 in 1858 to 3 in 1859. There is a slight decrease in the number on Lundy Island, but a great increase on the Isle of Man—namely, from 6 in 1858 to 23 in 1859.

From other tables it appears that the wind which has been most disastrous to shipping during 1859 was the S.W. wind. This was also the case during 1858.

It is computed that the loss of property caused by wrecks and casualties on the coasts of the United Kingdom during the year 1859 was in cargoes about £893,000, and in ships £870,000, being a total loss of nearly two millions. There is an increase in the whole number of collisions in 1859 over the number in 1858; and it appears that the causes of this increase are as follows:—Bad look-out, 83, against 47 in 1858; neglect of rule of road, 78 against 38; error in judgment, 25 against 7; and inevitable accident, 49 against 21. There is, however, a decrease under the head of "neglecting the show lights," and under several other headings; but, on the whole, the increase in the number of collisions is 48.

The means for saving life have received due consideration and attention during the past year. The number of life-boats now stationed on the coasts of the United Kingdom is 158, being an addition of nine to the number included in the return for 1858. Of this number five are at the sole expense of the Royal National Life-boat Institution, and 88 are under the management of that institution, but are subsidised by this board.

LOSS OF LIFE BY FIRE.—A fire broke out on Sunday morning in a beer-shop in the Curtain-road, Shoreditch. The landlord of the house was enabled to lower all his family (a wife and several children) from the first-floor windows, and he also managed to escape; but a man who lodged in the second floor was burnt to ashes; his wife threw herself from the window, and was so much injured by the fall that she died before she reached the nearest hospital.

HOAXING THE NEWSPAPERS.—A "Dreadful Accident on the Great Northern Railway" was described in the *Times* of Tuesday, in a letter signed "Thomas Waddington, Morley's Hotel." No such accident had occurred, and no such person as Mr. Waddington was known at Morley's. We wonder whether the person who perpetrated the hoax considers himself a funny man in consequence?—Again, it was announced in all the daily papers that a "fatal riot" had taken place amongst the Irish at Camberwell, at least one man having been killed. It turns out that the riot was only a mere squabble, and that nobody was hurt.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH.—An inquest was held on Wednesday, at Pimlico, on the body of Mr. John Thompson, aged sixty-one years, who was formerly an officer in the 16th Lancers. A Mr. Palmer stated that the deceased had resided with him for upwards of twelve months, and was in independent circumstances. On Tuesday, the 13th inst., he left the house for the purpose of going to Woolwich, as he was in the habit of doing very often, for two or three days. Witness heard no more of him until the following Monday, when a man, who said his name was Cox, called and informed him that the deceased was lying dead at No. 6, Apollo-court, Fleet-street. Cox also informed him that he was the deceased's brother, and that all his property was left to him. He went with Cox to Apollo-court, and there found the deceased lying dead. The deceased generally carried a good sum of money about him, sometimes as much as £10, and when he left on the 13th he had a gold watch and chain, a large gold ring, a gold pin, and gold eye-glass, and wore upon his breast three medals. Mrs. Palmer, the wife of the last witness, corroborated the greater portion of this evidence. When Cox was asked by her respecting the manner of deceased's death, he said he had fallen down some stairs, Patrick Egan, living at 6, Apollo-court, Fleet-street, said that on Tuesday, the 13th, about twelve o'clock at night, he heard a noise proceeding from the cellar as of some person groaning, and on going down there discovered the deceased lying on his back. He, with assistance, conveyed him up stairs to Cox's room, where he was laid on a bed. There was a wound on the back of his head, from which the blood flowed. The inquiry, which lasted several hours, was adjourned for a medical examination of the body.

# LAW AND CRIME.

THE law of bankruptcy stands, happily, in a fair way for amendment. But it is even still questionable whether the proposed reform will be equal to the task of meeting certain commercial frauds upon the proper ground. If a swindler, pretending, let us say, to be a son of an earl, or attached to a foreign embassy, obtains under that false and fraudulent pretext goods or money, he is, as the law at present stands, indictable and punishable criminally. But if this same swindler pretend to be a tradesman, which he is no more than he is a lord or a diplomatist, and in this assumed and utterly fictitious commercial character obtain money or money's worth, he appears to be liable only to the very mild punishment which the Court of Bankruptcy is empowered to inflict. At the least, the chances are a hundred to one that he will escape with a third-class certificate, suspended for a period of longer or shorter duration. This is one of the matters which appears to call loudest for energetic reform. Punish (if it may be done) a fraudulent trader, as such, by any commercial penalties fitting for that end; but punish the man who simply pretends to be a trader, and obtains goods, not for the purpose of living on the profits of sale, but with the fixed intention of swindling those from whom he has obtained them, not by commercial, but by criminal, laws by all means. Why should a man, by painting his name over a shopfront, obtain immunity from the penalties of profiting by false pretences when holding himself forth as a trader at all, is the very height of false pretence? Yet this is the system at present followed by many whose desire is to obtain a dishonest livelihood at the smallest personal risk; and the records of the Courts of Bankruptcy and Insolvency constantly illustrate the fact. Perhaps something of the kind is exhibited in the story of Mr. Aylward, lately a wine-merchant. Mr. Aylward, being in 1855 a commercial clerk, commenced business upon his own account. The system was simple enough. He purchased wine on credit, sold it at a loss for ready money, and spent the price received. When pressed for money he raised it upon bills, at various rates of discount from 15 to 45 per cent. The dealer from whom he received his goods upon credit advanced him £32, after inquiring whether he was solvent, and receiving in reply the bankrupt's pledge of his "honour" that he could pay 20s. in the pound. One of his latest transactions was the purchase of twelve casks of wine on which the



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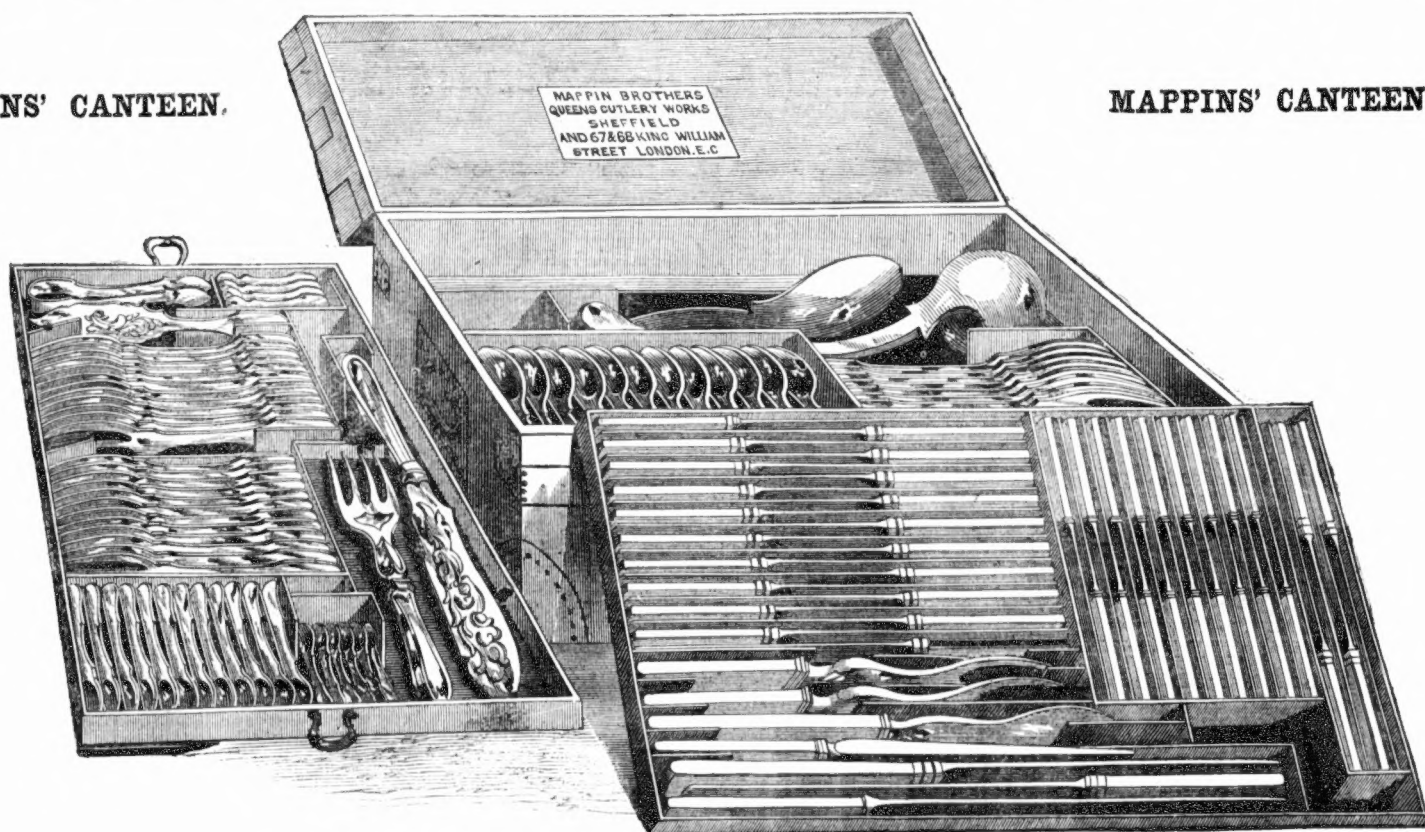
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4 Salt Spoons	0	6	8	0	10	0	0	12	0
1 Mustard Spoon	0	1	8	0	2	6	0	3	0
1 Pair Sugar Tongs	0	3	6	0	5	6	0	6	0
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